

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXVI.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 1907.

No. 7

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	97
Leading Articles:—	
Decadent Sport	98
A Notable Hongkong Crime	98
Shipping Rings	98
Chinese Railway Routes	99
On Making Allowances	99
Futile Forecasts	100
The Chinese Empress Dowager	100
Supreme Court	101
Prisoner's Attempt to Escape	102
Generational Affray on the Praya	102
The Harbour Mystery	102
The Tararion Question at Macao	105
Canton	105
Fire at Wanchai	105
Volunteer Troop Gymkhana	106
Companies	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	107
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited	107
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	108
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd.	108
Viceroy Shun Not Coming	109
The Russo-Japanese Convention	109
Water Return	105
Hongkong Finances	109
Another Chinese Decree	109
Commercial	109
Shipping	112

BIRTHS.

On August 8th, at Shanghai, the wife of H. B. EMERSON, of a son.
On August 8th, at Shanghai, the wife of WILLIAM MOWAT LAW, of a son.
On August 9th, at Shanghai, the wife of CHARLES RICHARDS, of a daughter.
On August 12th, at Eilandsnan, The Peak, the wife of ANDREW FORBES, of a son.
On August 18th, at 156, Praya East, the wife of Mr. A. BAYSON, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On August 3rd, at Shanghai, HARRY CHRISTOPHER ARSHAL to ALICE FANNY COOPER.

DEATHS.

On August 3rd, at Chefoo, ROBERT HENRY ALEXANDER EVANS NELSON, B.N., aged 62 years.
On August 4th, at Shanghai, ALEXANDER JOHN, eldest son of the late ALEXANDER LAW and Mrs. JOHN PRENTICE, aged 31 years.
On August 16th, at the Pate Hospital, DAVID ALEXANDER ANDREWS, C.E., Quarry Bay Shipyard, aged 43 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of July 16th arrived, per the s.s. *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, on Monday, the 14th instant; and the French Mail of July 19th arrived, per the s.s. *Tourane*, to-day.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

H.M.S. *Kent* ran down a Japanese steamer on August 8th near Hakodate. All the crew was saved.

Hongkong's revenue for the period ended May 31st, 1907, amounts to \$2,898,994.72, and the expenditure to \$2,366,971.17.

The proposal made by Viceroy Chang Chih-tung the other day, to allow the sale of patents of nobility from Duke to Baron, as a means of raising funds for Government, has been vetoed by the Throne.

Probably the first case of a mandarin dying at his post of plague has occurred in the neighbourhood of Swatow. The Ch'ao-yang Hsien lost his life from that disease, which is still sporadic in his city.

The *Cable News* learns that half a million dollars capital is now available for the big new hotel projected at Manila, and that the promoters expect to give the inaugural banquet within eighteen months.

A collapse occurred on August 15th at No. 51 Caine Road. This old building, which was in course of demolition fell in and caused injury to three workmen who were extricated and removed to the Tung Wah Hospital.

A Chinese trader, Yeung Chik San, was discovered by P. C. Watt in the act of applying false trade marks to tea, and when he appeared before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistrate's on Aug. 13th, he had to find bail of \$1000, the case being remanded.

The Chinese Ministry of Education is sending a dozen officials, under various guises, to Japan to watch the conduct of Chinese students in Japan and to find out whether there is indeed so much anti-dynastic feeling among them as has been reported by enemies of the students.

The death has just taken place at the Government Civil Hospital of Mr. C. H. Hamilton, who was engaged on the Canton Kowloon railway construction works. He was well known in the Colony and news of his death will be received with regret by a large circle of friends.

The Waiwupu received a telegram from President Roosevelt on the 4th instant, addressed to the Emperor, congratulating his Majesty on the completion of his thirty-seventh birthday anniversary. The telegram was first translated by the Waiwupu and then "reverentially presented to the Emperor."

H. E. Viceroy Yun Shih-k'ai presented a memorial to their Majesties, strongly denouncing the short-sighted policy of many of the Imperial advisers, and declared that the fate of China would be like that of Korea, if reforms were still obstructed by the reactionary party. The reading of the Viceroy's memorial created quite an excitement in Court circles and Their Majesties seemed to be much moved.

The death took place at the Peak Hospital on Aug. 16th of Mr. David Alexander Andrews C.E. Deceased, who was a cousin of Mr. Donald Macdonald was formerly on the staff of the Naval Extension Works but after two years' service and a holiday at home returned to the Colony under agreement with Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and joined the engineering staff at Quarry Bay. Mr. Andrews was taken ill two weeks ago and his death yesterday from congestion of the lungs caused a painful sensation among his large circle of friends and acquaintances. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon.

The Shanghai Ice Co., or at least the Company's Compradore or Chinese Manager, suddenly, without previous notice, raised the price for ice from their advertised rate of half cent per pound to one cent, the reason probably being that they had heard of a breakdown of the machinery of the rival Company.

A Chinese youth at Kowloonchai, who attempted to rob a neighbour's house on Friday night, was considerably surprised when the woman of the house appeared on the scene and skilfully lassoed him, afterwards tying him to a bedpost with the rope. The police soon arrived and conducted him to the Magistrate's, where he was dealt with by Mr. C. D. Melbourne.

As the coinage of the Colony is about to become the subject of investigation by a Commission, we may draw attention to the growing prevalence of the Japanese yen and the scarcity of the Mexican dollar. At the present rate of exchange the discount on the yen is 9½ per cent. As the majority of the Japanese coins in circulation appear to be quite new the inference is that they are being imported as a business speculation. Just as the depreciated Chinese twenty-cent piece passes current in small business transactions at its nominal value, so is the Japanese yen given and accepted as the equivalent of a Mexican dollar.

A disquieting state of affairs is reported by the "Mainichi" correspondent at Kwang-changze. H. E. Hsu Shih-shan, the Viceroy of Manchuria has, he says, placed thousands of infantry and cavalry outside the walls of Changchun, partly as a precaution against the mounted bandits, but partly, also, to counter-balance the Japanese troops. He has, likewise, mounted six quick-firing guns, which point toward the quarters of the Japanese. The troops are certainly superior to the Chinese army in general, and they are conscious of their superiority. Sometimes they assault Japanese subjects, and at others they enjoy themselves at Japanese restaurants and go away without paying their bills. In consequence of these circumstances, the Chinese merchants in the locality have come to hold the Japanese in contempt. If the present position continues, encounters between the Chinese and Japanese troops will be inevitable. The Japanese merchants are determined to firmly establish the Japanese colony at Changchun.

Gujar Singh, an Indian constable, found himself in the dock on Aug. 13. He was charged with the larceny of \$81 from a Chinaman whom he had arrested. It appears that the Chinaman, a steward on board the *Waichow*, was sent to pay some bill, and in addition to the \$81 mentioned had in his possession \$118. Whether he remained strictly sober is neither here nor there, but the constable considered it his duty to arrest him. Sooner had he made the capture than he took from the Chinaman's side pocket the book from which a number of bank notes were produced and transferred the contents to his own. Arrived at the Central Police Station the Chinaman complained that he had been robbed, and, suspicion falling on the constable, he was searched, with the result that \$75 was found upon him. He pleaded that he had picked up the money from the street, as the Chinaman dropped it, and forgot to hand it over. Mr. Gomer's said that, had it not been for defendant's good record in the force, he would have sent him to prison for six months. As it was, he would have to go for three months.

DECADENT SPORT.

(Daily Press, August 10th.)

A studious undergraduate, on hearing that his University had lost the boat race, remarked philosophically, "Ah, well, no matter; we won the chess!" We are accustomed to a good deal of this kind of philosophy in connection with sport. It has become a football aphorism that the better team lost (though footballers, scorers of grammar, usually say 'best' for 'better') and in water polo it is not unusual to impugn the honesty of the referee. Such philosophy is not good sport, but neither is the lachrymose wail of the *Daily Telegraph*, which, noting that the Golf Championship has gone to France, Tennis to America, Lawn tennis to Australia and America, Rowing to Belgium, Yachting to Germany and America, Pole jumping to Sweden, and Swimming to America and Australia, forthwith laments the decadence of the British youth. Pot-hunting is not good sport, and pot-winning is not a proof of any monopoly of excellence. A good second is a good horse, as everybody knows, and we are yet a long way from the stage at which it will be permissible to assert that "even in their chosen pastimes the English youth are beyond a fair second-class level. They are too slack to take pains—they have not the energy—and more and more every year they are being beaten by the foreigner." The list of foreigners who have this year scored in open events is certainly an imposing one, but it is sheer fudge to weep about it. Certainly the newspapers should be the last to lead such lamentations, for they have done their best, or worst, by the ludicrous lengths to which they have pandered to the spectators at the expense of the players, to debauch English sport. They have conspired to put it on a level with the shows and entertainments of the decadent Roman arena, and encouraged the youthful masses of our isle to take vicariously. The free public reading rooms have been the playing fields for these, because there they could get the tips and items and paragraphs which enable them to shine as critical conversationalists on the grandstand or round the ropes. But for the assistance of the press, sport could not have been commercialized as it has been, and it is by no means a rash assertion to say that the first gate money taken at an athletic contest was as much tainted as the silver pieces of Judas. In a single generation it has brought us to the pitch at which good cricketers write bad comments for the *Daily Mail*. True artists are not supposed to discuss art, according to Ruskin, a naive admission which delighted those who suspected Ruskin's qualification, but nowadays a begoggled automobilist about to try to lower a track record is permitted, nay invited, to record his anticipatory sensations in a column of type, and the public swallows it. The business man who "talks shop" is often one of the best business men, but the mere prater of athletics is rarely a performer. A shilling book on some sport, a halfpenny paper on current performances, and a sixpence paid at a turnstile to cheer selected champions represents the expenditure of far too many modern sportsmen, but it is not right to nominate these as the sole representative of English adolescence. There are thousands of novices, amateurs and "crocks" always doing their best, away from the roars of the grandstand or the fulsome adjectives and adverbs of the sporting reporter. Fashionable cricket has been well defined as "twenty-two gladiators in a ring of twenty-two thousand loafers,"

but there is still school and village cricket and football, keenly played, and working its good effect on the stamina of the race. The good effects where, as recently, a crowd riotously stormed the pitch over a captain's decision to draw stumps, are less easy to recognise, although Prince RANJITSINGH in his book did speak of the sympathy and kindly feelings promoted among the spectators. To get back, however, to the question of lost championships, how can it prove that the English youth is too lazy to row, and row well, because a few Belgians carry away a trophy from Henley? Or that hot lawn tennis games are no longer played on English lawns because Miss MAY SUTTON, an American lady, scored most points at Wimbledon? Such champions require more than skill; they require assurance, leisure, and means to take up such conspicuous positions, and there must be dozens of English girls who could beat Miss SUTTON, who will never dream of coming forward as international contestants. The same argument applies to all the other cases. Mr. MASSEY of France wins the golf championship, but surely it cannot be maintained therefore that British golf has become inferior to French golf. A Russian marine administered a thrashing to a Japanese *soshi* in a Yokohama tavern just before the war, but that isolated incident was not prophetic of the result of the international struggle that followed. It seems to us nonsense to say, as the *Daily Telegraph* has said, that "England, after importing her knowledge to those abroad, is hoist with her own petard, and now has to stand quietly by whilst English championships one by one leave their native shores, some for the first time." It is to be hoped *Punch* will not overlook that historical Jeremiad. The vision of England standing "quietly by" after being hoist on a petard is too funny. We might almost argue on *Daily Telegraph* lines, and submit that because that matronly organ perpetrates a howler occasionally, London journalism has gone to the dogs. Our contemporary puts the question, "Are we deteriorating physically?" We regret that our answer must be, "No. Only mentally."

A NOTABLE HONGKONG CRIME.

(Daily Press, 12th August.)

The revolting crime now agitating the minds of all our readers promises to mark an epoch, as a famous Yokohama one did ten years ago. It does not present quite as many mysteries as the Carew case did, but it has characteristics not entirely dissimilar, inasmuch as the murderer seems to have exercised a similarly mistaken ingenuity to mislead his inevitable pursuers. In the Carew case, anonymous letters were written to divert the hue and cry; in the present instance the man has endeavoured to entangle it amid a multiplicity of steamers. In both cases there are symptoms of what we may call the "penny dreadful" mind, and the same extraordinary inattention to matters bound to defeat the object of the rest of the scheming. It must be a source of consolation to the public that in the majority of such cases, criminal ingenuity generally suffers from flaws that lead to its detection. In the detective world, "Sherlock Holmes" is a myth; gossips grumble occasionally at the alleged inefficiency of the police, but the most unreasonable of them does not expect that the miracles of Conan Doyle's imagination should be reproduced in real life. It is therefore fortunate for the official guardians of public safety that "Professor Moriarty" is an equally rare

bird. The smartest of criminals will make the most stupid of blunders. The murderer who could conceive of the plan of getting his victim entombed in the depths of the hold of an oceangoing steamer was cunning, but not shrewd enough to reckon on the consequences of a possible miscarriage of his plan. Otherwise he would have used for packing the grisly evidence of his brutality something other than towels into which was woven in staring characters the name of the hotel at which he and his victim had been staying. As to his temperament, the liveliest curiosity is unavoidable. It must have required a devilish sort of temper to kill a woman by strangling, with the deliberation evinced in the use of a hairbrush as a tourniquet. The subsequent robbery, again, even if it were not the sole motive of the crime, puts the wickedness of it all on a lower, meaner, scale; and though the man has to be tried before he is condemned, (and caught before he is tried), we do not anticipate in this case any sentimental issues being raised, of brainstorms, or any specious defences of that sort. Whoever slew the unfortunate woman under circumstances of such almost inconceivable malignity has well earned the unanimous execration of the populace, and the police now in search of him have the strongest possible public good wishes for their success. It is a little unfortunate that so much well meant assistance should have proved an embarrassment rather than a help, but though the opportunities of getting away from Hongkong are so numerous and complex, the police do not despair of eventually laying hands on the miscreant. The publicity already given to the description of a suspect must have made his progress less easy than it has hitherto been.

SHIPPING RINGS

(Daily Press, 13th August)

Has the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce been asked by the Colonial Office to answer replies regarding Shipping Conferences or "Rings" similar to those just answered by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce? The replies of the Singapore Chamber, with comments of individual members, were reproduced in our issue of yesterday, and we understand, have been read with very considerable interest in Hongkong, so that the query with which these remarks begin is being made. If the local Chamber of Commerce has not had its opinion solicited, why is it; or if it has (and it was understood that similar questions were to be submitted to it), when are we to have the result of its deliberations on this important subject? Such was the attitude taken up over yesterday's breakfast and tiffin tables, and as the result of enquiry, we have to give the not very satisfactory answer that the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has so far not received any such enquiries. This seems a little odd, for it cannot be supposed that the port of Hongkong is less interested in such a discussion than is its Malayan neighbour. Its opinions ought to be very interesting, moreover, with the representative of the premier line presiding over its committee. However, for the present, Hongkong readers must be content with the light thrown upon the subject by the shippers of Singapore, in addition to the abstracts of evidence we have been giving from the published reports of the Conference now sitting. It will have been noticed that while the reporting members of the Singapore Chamber seemed to share a unanimous antipathy to the principle and rebate practices of shipping combinations, the majority admitted that such "rings" had been productive of

beneficial results to trade during recent years, by securing stability of rates and more regular and efficient service. Their reply to the Government, adopted and supported by the Chamber, was that cargo can now be shipped to almost any port in the United Kingdom by better, faster, and more regular shipping opportunities, and the speculative element in quotations including freight charges had now disappeared. This, they said, had helped to create easier financial facilities, reduced the rates of marine insurance, and improved the out-turn of the cargo carrier. The Singapore Chairman took the extraordinary view that the whole of the sub-committee's report as it stood must be accepted or rejected for despatch to the Government, ignoring a member's suggestion that the Sub-Committee's reply was to the Chamber of Commerce, whose place it was to reply to the Colonial Office. In this way we were robbed of what would doubtless have proved a most interesting debate. Those who wished to amend the sub-committee's report to the extent indicated in the Hon. Mr. ANDERSON's rider appear to claim that the improvements admitted have been brought about in spite of, and not because of, shipping rings. Mr. ANDERSON denies that the shipping facilities are good enough, even while he admits that there has been a great improvement. Such facilities as now exist have been, he claims, merely the progressive outcome of a natural process of evolution. Tramp steamers, still subject to competition, have improved in the same way, and he offers the telling argument that if the shipping rings (said to have caused the improvement) were to be abolished, no one would suggest that cargo steamers of the old fashioned patterns would have to be re-introduced. The argument about competition and speculation in freights seems to be as full of intricacies as is the question of subsidiary coinage, there being a good deal to be said on both sides. Mr. ANDERSON suggests a pretty comparison on the reference to financial facilities—if shipping rings, why not banking rings? He points out that not shipping rings, but increased trade, caused increased banking competition, and that this competition accounts for the "easier financial facilities," an argument which, whether true or false, is at least easy to follow. To similar changes of the conditions, he also attributes the cheaper insurance. To those who may have overlooked this important contribution to the study of a subject now assuming prominence in the business world, we recommend a perusal of the third and fifth pages of our issue of yesterday.

CHINESE RAILWAY ROUTES.

(Daily Press, 14th August.)

We have already dealt sketchily with the itinerary recently published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, of a journey by Mr. GARNETT, 3rd Secretary of H. M. Legation at Peking. It gives an indication of how little is really known of the internal communications of China, and is worth further reference. From Chinan, being desirous of visiting the cities of CONFUCIUS and MENCIUS, Mr. GARNETT at last found himself at Tsining Cheo, one of the old and most important centres of trade in southern Shantung. So far so good; Chinan and Tsining are two spots that would recommend themselves to any practical man seeking to lay out a line of railway from the Capital to the South. From Tsining on there is room for considerable differences of opinion. Following the ordi-

nary route without thought of questioning its propriety, Mr. GARNETT went down the Grain Tribute Canal to Tsingkiangpu, and thence through the lakes to Yangchow and Chinkiang. Tsingkiangpu, except that it is on the Canal, where the new and smaller channel meets the older and larger serving the northern part of Kiangsu, has no advantage of situation, and owes any commercial advantage it might have simply to the fact that in the old days prior to Hien Fung, the boats bringing produce from the South transhipped here into smaller boats which alone could navigate the much smaller and more difficult channel to Tsining. With the opening of the coast to steamboat traffic the utility of this line almost altogether, except for mere local traffic, disappeared, owing to the want of water, and the adverse levels. With the change of the lower course of the Yellow river, the traffic along the northern portion of the Canal, as far as private transportation went, entirely ceased; the boats carrying the tribute rice were with difficulty sluiced the whole way from Tsining to Lint'ng on the Wei; and there was no water left for private traffic.

Now it is noteworthy that all the schemes that have been suggested, and some of which have led to preliminary surveys being made, simply start on the assumption of following the line of the Canal; and so nearly the entire way from Tsingkiangpu to Yangchow traverse an embankment between two lakes, where the country produces absolutely nothing, and the towns Paoying and Kwouji are, since the opening of the Coast, little more than heaps of ruins. To understand this we must go a little into the ancient geography of the country. Before the twelfth century the Yellow River flowed into the Gulf of Pechili, between Chihli and Shantung provinces, and the Grain Canal had no existence, the main line of communication from South to North started from north of Nanking and went by way of Fungyang and Sücheo to Tsining, and overland. In 484 B.C. indeed, the last king of Wu (Suchow) had opened a channel of communication between the Hungtse Lake, through which latter flowed the old River Hwai into the Yellow sea in a channel afterwards occupied by the Yellow River. This artificial channel exists still, but from the excessive velocity of the current there do not seem to be any records of its having been availed of for commercial traffic. Through it in these modern days the whole stream of the modern Hwai, with its numerous tributaries in southern and eastern Honan, and a large part of northern Anhwei, flow with a rapid current across the line of the Imperial Grain Canal near Yangchow, and make their way under the Wan Fu Bridge to get lost in the Taicheo district about Siennumiao. The whole of this country, though most interesting and important in any study of the industrial resources of China, remains absolutely unsurveyed.

The line of the Imperial Grain Canal, it is worthy of note, owes its origin to accident. In 1194 during the troublous times at the rise of the Mongol dynasty of Yuen, the old Yellow river burst its right bank in Tsaocheo Fu, and a stream made its way temporarily by Tsining to the River Hwai. It was not for some years after that, again breaking through its right bank higher up, it took the course in which it flowed for six centuries and a half. Kublai Khan, who at last succeeded to a settled throne, took advantage of the stream from Tsaocheo to Tsingkiangpu to open up for the first time the subsequent great

channel of communication with the south of his empire. The actual historic line of communication between North and South passes west, not east, of the Hungtse Lake, and this is, so far as it is known, a fertile country, and not, as the present line, subject to inundation; and before hastily fixing on any line for the proposed new railway, it would be well to have this surveyed. Although the ground is higher it is not crossed by any range of hills, the highest ground being the Loess water parting between the Ch'ao Hu in the centre of Anhwei, and the small streams flowing directly into the Imperial Grain Canal. The same may be said of the plain which extends all the way from the walls of Nanking south-easterly to Liyang and Changheing-hien across the boundaries of Anhwei and Chehkiang. This is likewise a rich and in parts well cultivated plain, but has been kept back from the absence of water-ways. This district forms the water parting between the streams flowing into the Yangtse about Wuhu, and those flowing down to Hucheo and the Tai Hu. Formerly one or more channels crossed this plain, but were artificially blocked in order to prevent the Yangtse in time of flood submerging the low country. In consequence of this the country has diminished in point of wealth, but still is the great rice country that supplies Wuhu, the largest rice exporter on the Yangtse. It is only waiting for the opening up of railways to recover its former productiveness. This plain communicates with Hangchow in the south, and so a line along the suggested course would really form the great main line from the Capital to Hangchow, and at Nanking would connect with the lower Kiangsu system.

It will thus be seen that there is much to be learned about these districts between Tsao Fu and Nanking and Hangchow before we are justified in hastily adopting the line of the present Imperial Grain Canal, as the only or best course available for a successful line of railway. Notwithstanding, without a moment's consideration, we have seen both the British and German Governments foolishly urging on China the immediate granting of a concession for making and working an objectionable line. It is true that China has as little the real interests of the country at heart in her opposition; but that is no reason why without any consideration more than an excursion down the Imperial Grain Canal an important railway line should be undertaken. It may be right enough to jog on China's opposition to any scheme for her benefit; but the more this becomes expedient, the more incumbent it is on our Government to be really satisfied that the proposal that it is urging shall have been properly worked out in all its economical aspects.

ON MAKING ALLOWANCES.

(Daily Press, August 15th.)

Our special commissioner to Macao has covered the ground of his enquiry so exhaustively and conscientiously, and has presented his conclusions in such fair sequence, that it would be mere damnable iteration to retrace the one or paraphrase the other. We refer to the matter only in order that we may address a sort of sermon to those who, whether idly or of malice aforethought, dared to tax this journal with the fault of wilful exaggeration. It is clear that there have been misunderstandings; there always are; but in the case of Macao taxation in our published comments these have not been confined to one side

only. After the long article appearing in our yesterday's issue has been digested by both sides, we anticipate that the atmosphere will seem clearer. It is less easy to find excuses for a person who, resenting comments in one journal, writes to another insinuating that there has been deliberate and calculated misrepresentation. That is mean, and so, providing its advertency be admitted, is the act of the journal which consents to publish such philippics. We perhaps should not go to quite such a length, for the text of our secular sermon is practically that "you never can tell." The Buddhist parable of the three blind men and the elephant supplies it. One groped his way to a hind leg, and on the evidence of his own sense of touch declared that an elephant is like a tree. The second stumbled against the animal's flank, and had no hesitation in swearing that an elephant is more like a huge boulder than a tree. The third, handling the swinging trunk, called them both fools. It was beyond the slightest shadow of doubt that the elephant resembled a serpent. We can easily imagine the heated debate that ensued, and perhaps it will be less hard, remembering that, to reflect in future controversies that both or all parties may be in the right, as the blind men of the parable certainly were, from their several points of view. The story might be extended to include two bystanders, one seeing, the other blind. It is impossible in the nature of things, the blind bystander logically would argue, that all three could be right. A snake is nothing like a rock, for instance, therefore, obviously, *q.e.d.*, and so on, either the second or third witness must be falsely testifying. Most of us are in the position of the blind bystander when confronted with life's little problems and discussions, and it is only a few seers who are able to smile and admit the justice of each claim. It is an erroneous aphorism that puts truth between two extremes, then; both extremes are truths; and propositions that may appear to the blind bystander to be mutually destructive may actually be complementary. But this is metaphysical. In his latest publication, which we recommend military men *not* to read, Mr. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW says the universal regard for money is the only hopeful symptom our civilisation shows. He says it is an impudent lie and extreme hypocrisy to teach the young that it is wrong to desire money. The following striking passage is worth quoting:

The first duty of every citizen is to insist on having money on reasonable terms, and this demand is not complied with by giving four men three shillings each for ten or twelve hours' drudgery and one man a thousand pounds for nothing. The crying need of the nation is not for better morals, cheaper bread, temperance, liberty, culture, redemption of fallen sisters and erring brothers, nor the grace, love, and fellowship of the Trinity, but simply for enough money. And the evil to be attacked is not sin, suffering, greed, priestcraft, kingcraft, demagoguery, monopoly, ignorance, drink, war, pestilence, nor any other of the scapegoats which reformers sacrifice, but simply poverty.

On the other hand, a less famous writer in *Blackwood's Magazine*, while smiting and slashing the American plutocrats, with great apparent gusto, has this:

Their bank-books are the index of their folly. They waste their years in a vain pursuit, which they cannot resist. They exclude from their lives all that makes life worth living, that they may acquire innumerable specimens of a precious metal. Gold is their end, not the gratification it may bring. Mr. Rockefeller will go out of the world as limited in intelligence, as uneducated in mind, as he was when he entered it.

The lessons of history and literature are lost upon him. The joys for which wise men strive have never been his. He is the richest man on earth, and his position and influence are the heaviest indictment of wealth that can be made.

A lively debate is a thing, an actuality that may be enjoyed, and its two or more extremes make it a complete whole. With one extreme missing, or inadequately presented, it is not complete, and becomes as flat as a Band of Hope lecture. It is really an epitome of life, and the seers who see this cannot help being optimists. When they make the mistake of thinking that each of the blind witnesses was *wrong*, they are pessimists, and as pessimists behave accordingly. But here again the two extremes form one, and the omission of one leaves no remainder. If there were no pessimists, there could be no optimists. *C'est la vie!*

FUTILE FORECASTS.

(Daily Press, 16th August.)

No properly informed person is likely to regard "General" BOOTH as an authority on Far Eastern matters, and it will hardly be claimed that he was "inspired" when he prophesied recently that China and Japan will one day exercise the hegemony of the world, and that they will attain that position, at present held by white men, "by peaceful commercial competition." He was a mere globetrotter in the Far East, and did not even trouble to visit China, although he includes it in his subsequent observations. Like all globetrotters, he was not careful to cut the coat of his criticisms according to the measure of his acquired material, and much of what he is reported to have uttered is mere parrot-like repetition of phrases he has heard or read from others. It is this fact, that there are others saying the same or similar things, that alone makes his remarks worth noticing, although we have no intention of taking them seriously. "General" BOOTH expressly eliminated war from his prognostications, though it seems clear enough that before they could be permitted to come to pass, war would be inevitable, war of the bloodiest description, war à l'outrance, in fact, because provoked by dire necessity, by the struggle for existence. Those who really and seriously believe in the Yellow Peril of the German Emperor, since, we understand, recounted by His Majesty, may look upon Asia as a hornets' nest, and upon Western civilization as a mischievous boy poking it with a stick, to see what will happen. We do not admire the analogy, preferring to call the hornets' nest a nest of hedgehogs, for we do not as yet, even with Japan in mind, see any decisive signs that the Asiatics have come within measurable distance of realizing the potentialities of their numbers and weight. The West has worked hard to hustle the East, which has preferred to roll itself up like the hedgehog, presenting its spines to the disturber, but otherwise lying inert. It has become platitudinous to say that the Japanese, by their conversion to Western manners and methods, have contributed to the force of impact from the West a tractive force from the East, but as yet they cannot be said to have successfully drawn as much as the West has driven. Possibly it will yet be found, as we suspect, that their conversion is so thorough that they too prefer to drive rather than to draw. It does certainly appear to us that they have accepted the handicaps as well as the helps of the West; and the labour or industrial troubles of Germany, Belfast, Southern France, and elsewhere, are by no means unparalleled in modern Japan. Such is one of the penalties to be paid for the progress

of material science and the multiplying of alleged necessities. With greater luxury and costlier existence come dissatisfaction and indiscipline, and a degenerated physique and a more complex mentality prone to hysteria. The Californian agitation, the repatriation of Chinese from South Africa, and the colour prejudices of British Columbia and elsewhere, are merely portents of what would happen if "General" BOOTH's prophecies were to look like coming true. It is undoubted that the skill and patience of workmen and craftsmen whose needs are simple and habits frugal are deadly weapons when opposed to the industry of those accustomed to a more comfortable plane of existence as bread-winners. Before they could be generally brought to bear, however, the West would have other weapons out, and by the time the East became ready to work on equal terms it would perhaps find itself doing all the work, but in slavery to the West. At present such a situation is unthinkable, and the picture is drawn merely to show the futility of such forecasts as the one attributed to an old man whom too many backpatting have made garrulous.

THE CHINESE EMPRESS-DOWAGER.

(Daily Press, 17th August.)

The story of the imminent abdication of the Empress-Dowager of China is one that has been frequently repeated during the last twelve months, and we believe the date was fixed about two months ago by a Chinese journalist in Shanghai who has the advantage of an imagination in thorough working order. It may be taken for granted that authentic information of that nature would not be published in any hole-and-corner ways, whereas at present the story is discreetly ignored by native journals amenable to Peking influences. In the middle of last month the Empress-Dowager was reported to be "seriously thinking" of handing back the reins of government to the Emperor, and that "the day chosen for the ceremony will be the first day of the next Chinese new year"—February 2nd next. The story of that date was given *à l'essai* by the added comment that "on that occasion also it is probable an Heir Apparent will also be selected," and the infant nephew of the Emperor (Prince Chun's son) and Princes Kung and P'u Lun were nominated as likely selections. Subsequent statements are unlikely to be more than repetitions and variations of these canards, which were a natural outcome of the period marked by anti-dynastic agitation. It is supposed to be unwise to prophesy, but our success in the matter of Ex-Viceroy Shum's non-return to Canton emboldens us to venture the further prediction that the Empress-Dowager will die in harness. The official panic that has been responsible for so much barbarity may have penetrated the Forbidden City to some extent, but even that would be against the probability of her retirement. She must know that the odour of sanctity that hangs about the Chinese throne, to say nothing of the complicated system of palace guards, constitutes her best protection. In a Dowager House at any distance from these, her life would not be, in insurance parlance, a good risk, while if she remained quartered with the Emperor, her abdication would be only nominal, a mere farce. The only solution of the no-her-in-law problem is to get her out of the house. Remaining, no matter how good her intentions, she must meddle. It would be so with the old lady of Peking,

apropos whose alleged impending retirement such friends of China as are addicted to slangy speech will murmur "No such luck." Not even the best informed dare venture to prophesy what will happen when she does go, one way or another. The Emperor may be a vastly different person to what he was when she forcibly superseded him. He has had much to endure. But his imperial aunt is the same implacable foe to change that she has always been. Being a woman, she cannot help herself. On big questions and little ones, her attitude remains firm, one of devotion to the old order, before meddlesome foreign notions came to disturb Peking. Apart from the unforgiving attitude of those who cannot forget her share in the horrors of seven years ago, a share which we think has been too lightly overlooked by the diplomatic personnel at Peking, we would rejoice to find the news true. This happens to be a time in Far Eastern affairs when the removal of the arch-suffragette would help the development that must come, and so we hope that the date of her abdication may be as near as gossip has it, and that the abdication will be a genuine one, and not like that of the ex-Emperor of Korea.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 12th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

An interpleader suit was heard in the case of Chin Loi-wing of 147, Third Street, Victoria, trader, and Ma Sai-kat, trading as Wing Lok-ku, opium divan keeper at 86, Macdonnell Road, Tsimshatsui. The suit was for the recovery of \$180 due on a promissory note dated February 10th, 1906, and judgment was entered for plaintiff with costs. Subsequently the opium divan was seized under a writ of interim attachment. The present action was brought by Ngan Wing-lung, richa owner of 120 Macdonnell Road, Kowloon, who claimed to be a partner in the Wing Lok-ku opium divan, and further that the goods and chattels in the said divan were not liable to seizure under any execution in the case of Ma Sai-kat.

Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. X. d'Almadae Castro for the execution creditor.

Mr. Thomson stated that the opium divan was seized under a writ of interim attachment in an action brought against Ma Sai-kat. Ngan Wing-lung claimed he was a partner in this divan, whereas Ma Sai-kat said he was the sole owner, and when he started, borrowed \$150 from the claimant. When Ma Sai-kat asked the claimant to assist him in opening an opium divan at Tsimshatsui, Ngan Wing-lung agreed, and \$300 was put into the business. Then the claimant went into the ground floor of 86, Macdonnell Road, paid one month's rent and proceeded to furnish the premises. The shop was ready on June 27th, 1906. On that day an account was worked out showing how much the plaintiff had paid, and a balance of \$50 was now offered to Ma Sai-kat as a sort of working capital. On that day also, a partnership agreement was drawn up between the parties.

After hearing the evidence his Lordship found for the claimant with costs. He held that Ngan Wing-lung was a partner with Ma Sai-kat in the Wing Lok-ku firm, removed the previous execution, and with Mr. Thomson's consent made a charging order on the shares of Ma Sai-kat in the said firm.

Tuesday, August 13th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

SOLICITORS AND CLIENT.

Messrs. Ewens and Harston sued Lau Sik-ying, trader of 8, Circular Pathway, to recover

the sum of \$332.50 for professional costs, services rendered, work and labour done, and monies paid for defendant at his request in connection with the purchase by the defendant from Mok Yuk-tong of the remaining portion of section C. of the Praya reclamation to Marine Lot 71; also in connection with a second mortgage made by the defendant to Wong I-tung; and also in connection with a third mortgage made by defendant to Mok Yuk-tong. Mr. J. Scott Harston proved the debt, and judgment was entered for plaintiffs with costs.

Wednesday, August 14th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A MATTER FOR THE RAILWAY.

Alim Din sued Munshi Gulbark to recover \$151.81, coolies wages appropriated by defendant to his own use.

Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), who appeared for the defendant, said he had referred the matter to the railway authorities but had not received a definite answer. He heard through his client that the clerk over there, who went through the accounts and settled them, would be in court, but he was not present. Mr. Grist applied for an adjournment to enable him to subpoena the clerk.

His Lordship suggested that the account might be referred to him.

Mr. Grist agreed, and the case was adjourned.

His Lordship—I should think we have half the staff of the railway here this morning, but the right man is not among them. (To Mr. Grist)—Are they all your witnesses?

Mr. Grist—O, my Lord.

His Lordship—I'm glad to hear it.

CLAIM FOR WRONGFUL SEIZURE.

Ho Sam-yau, trading under the name of the San Hing firm, sought to recover from Wai Kong, trading as Wai Kong Koe, the sum of \$500, being damages for the wrongful seizure or attachment of plaintiff's property under an interim attachment.

Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. F. X. d'Almadae Castro for the defendant.

Mr. Grist referred his Lordship to summary action 979, and stated that the plaintiff in that action was the defendant in this, and applied for an attachment of the property of the present plaintiff on the ground that he was removing his goods and chattels from the jurisdiction of this honourable court. Mr. Grist would be able to show his Lordship that the allegation was absolutely false. The plaintiff was a man with a considerable amount of landed property in Hongkong, which was valued at present at \$26,000. He also had in his shop at the time of seizure goods to the value of \$4,000. An affidavit filed at the time of the attachment said the value of these goods was \$300. In action 979 the plaintiff's claim was for \$71.94, and the amount he paid into court, including costs, when he was served with a writ, was \$125. Mr. Grist did not dispute that the defendant was entitled to issue a writ, because the money was due, by if he had not made an attachment of the property the plaintiff would have had to pay into court only \$18.10. Now he had to pay \$44.16, therefore he incurred actual loss by reason of the attachment and suffered damages impossible to estimate. The man had been carrying on business here for a number of years and had never had the bailiffs in his house before. Necessarily the people in the neighbourhood would think he was in trouble, therefore he must suffer damages to his reputation and credit. The ground of action in the present case was the falsity of the affidavit filed which led his Lordship to suppose that there was only \$300 worth of property on the premises.

Mr. Almada—Plaintiff could have applied to have the interim attachment removed at once.

Mr. Grist—That would have cost him money. This is the proper course, I submit.

Mr. Almada—I submit it is not. Witnesses stated that goods were being removed from the shop and the defendant naturally believed they were being removed from the jurisdiction.

His Lordship was of opinion that the affidavits were sworn without sufficient knowledge of the facts. He thought there was some

trouble between the parties, but the plaintiff was to blame for not having paid up the money before. But as defendant had not sufficient grounds for swearing those affidavits he should get some punishment. He would pay \$100 and costs.

Thursday, August 15th.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

APPLICATION FOR RECEIVING ORDER.

Re the Tung On firm Mr. J. H. Gardiner, (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) appeared on behalf of the creditor to petition for a receiving order. The debts were \$1000, due on two promissory notes, and the act of bankruptcy was that the debtor absented himself from the Colony.

His Lordship—That is not sufficient. You must prove intent to defraud or delay.

Mr. Gardiner—The intent is set out in the affidavit of the petitioning creditor who states that the assets are \$300 and the liabilities \$8,000.

His Lordship—I cannot infer from the mere fact of the man's going away that he left the Colony with intent to defraud his creditors.

The petitioning creditor was called, and stated that he had endeavoured to find the partners of the debtor firm on various occasions, but always without success.

His Lordship granted the application.

A SIMILAR APPLICATION.

Re Au Ka-po ex parte Li Kuk-Chau.

Mr. R. Harding appeared for the creditor and asked for a receiving order. He understood the debtor was not in the Colony and an interim receiving order had already been made. The act of bankruptcy was notice of suspension of payment. The assets were valued at \$30,000, but the amount of the liabilities was unknown. The amount due the petitioning creditor was \$500.

His Lordship—Unless I know the liabilities I cannot grant the order.

Mr. Harding—There are substantial assets, my Lord.

His Lordship—Substantial assets to pay \$500. I cannot grant a bankruptcy petition against a man worth \$30,000 because he owes you \$500.

The case was adjourned.

AN EDITOR'S DIFFICULTIES.

Re Wong Sai-cheung ex parte the debtor.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring and Barlow) applied on behalf of the debtor, the editor of the Sui Nin-Po newspaper, for a receiving order. The debts were estimated at \$1,500 and the assets at \$1,000. Granted.

SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT.

Re the Ki Cheung firm ex parte the Yuk Hung bank.

This was a creditor's petition, made by Mr. H. Hursthouse (of Messrs. Denys and Bowley), for a receiving order. It was based upon notice of suspension of payment.

Mr. Man-yen, manager of the debtor firm said the liabilities were roughly between \$80,000 and \$90,000 and the assets between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

The application was granted.

SUPPRESSION VERI.

Re Chan Siu-hon ex parte the debtor.

This was a public examination of the bankrupt by Mr. J. H. Kemp, Trustee in Bankruptcy. Mr. H. G. C. Bailey (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) and Mr. G. Hastings (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for creditor.

Chan Siu-hon said he was formerly manager of the Tai Chuen firm at 245 Wing Lok Street, but relinquished the management about four years ago. Since then he had not been employed, and lived on what he borrowed from people. He had some lands which he mortgaged, and that money went towards his keep. He had a share in the Cheung Shing goldsmith shop which of the 3 years had not made any profits. The debt every to this firm amount to \$36,300 odd dollars. man. tor had overdrawn his account in the Tai police to the extent of about \$28,000. His had a quarter share in this firm, and it had been drawn on to the extent of \$11,000, which was added to the \$28,000 due to the firm. W. H. J. had a loan of \$1,000, while his assets in the Tai Chuen and Cheung

Shing firms. Debtor had not a share in the Kwong Wing On of Wing Lok Street.

By Mr. Bailey—You say you were manager of the Tai Chuen firm; how is it you got a salary of only Taels 10 a month?—he manager was not a person of authority.

And you were quite satisfied with that salary?—I had been all along.

Didn't you borrow certain monies from your friends to avoid bankruptcy two or three months ago?—No.

The Official Receiver asked for an adjournment, as he would be unable to close the examination.

His Lordship—What point do you wish me to bear in mind when reading the evidence.

The Official Receiver—It is alleged that the debtor has failed to disclose certain properties.

When debtor had been examined, Mr. Bailey asked his Lordship to issue a warrant for his arrest on the ground that he made certain false statements in his statement of affairs.

His Lordship—I'm afraid I can't. I don't know that a *prima facie* case has been made out. You and the Official Receiver have got certain facts, but it is a question whether they can be substantiated. At present they are no more than statements thrown at him, and he has denied them.

Mr. Bailey—We have witnesses.

His Lordship—Very well, I will hear them after 5 min.

When the Court resumed,

Chan Kee-ping, brother of the debtor, was called, and gave evidence as to certain lands owned by his brother in Canton. This land he got from his father. The estate was divided between three brothers. Witness had not heard that debtor had sold any of his land.

Chan Kwan-kwok, also testified to the debtor being a landowner in China. He had about 160 mow altogether, but witness could not say whether he had sold any recently. Chan Sui-hon also went under the name, Tien Po-tong. That was his "tong" name.

Chan Sin-hon, recalled, denied this and also affirmed that he had sold about 60 mow of his land, and mortgaged another 70 mow.

The Official Receiver—You have not sold or mortgaged any land since?—No.

Then you have 60 mow now?—That is included in what I mortgaged.

It was not your own then. The division was not till the fifth moon of this year, yet you say you mortgaged it on the 10th moon, last year?—I knew what my share would come to. I asked my father to divide, but as he would not, I mortgaged my share.

Mr. Bailey asked for the adjournment of the public examination, and asked his Lordship to grant a warrant for the arrest of the debtor under section 24 on the ground that the debtor had not given a full disclosure of his property in his statement of affairs.

His Lordship—I think there is a *prima facie* case, although I don't quite know how it will ultimately work out. There certainly has been a case of suppression of the truth with regard to the name "Tien Po Tong," therefore the warrant must go.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

This was the trial of an issue to decide whether Lai Chi-chin was a partner in the Tak Li Lung firm, and was the outcome of a former action in which judgment for \$338.75 was entered against the said firm, and against Lai Hing-pong and Lai Chi-chin, partners.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro appeared for the plaintiffs in the original action—Leung Shun-hing and Wong Tsai—and Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) represented Lai Chi-chin.

Lai Hing-pong said the Tak Li Lung firm commenced business with a capital of \$10,000, of which amount witness supplied \$10,000 cash and \$2,500 in materials. There were three partnership books, one for each of the partners, while one was left in the shop.

Cross-examined—The Tak Li Lung firm started business about five years ago with pearls usual when a new partner enters

change the firm's name and to advertise in the newspapers, but Lai Chi-chin said it was not necessary in this instance.

After hearing further evidence his Lordship came to the conclusion that Lai Chi-chin was a partner in the Tak Li Lung firm, and entered judgment and costs for the plaintiffs against him.

Friday, August 16th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A PENING APPEAL.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner, from the office of Messrs. Brutton and Hett, applied for a stay of execution against Li Chi-chin, whom his Lordship found on the previous day to be a partner in the Tak Li Lung firm.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, who represented the plaintiffs, objected to this and asked that a day be fixed for the hearing of the appeal.

His Lordship adjourned the case for one week to give the defendant an opportunity of proceeding.

AN ANNAMITE'S CLAIM.

Pham Pay Kien sued F. Flament to recover \$36 due for wages.

Defendant admitted engaging the plaintiff and bringing him here from Saigon at a salary of \$20 a month, but he had to summarily dismiss him during the first month's service owing to his thieving propensities.

Judgment was entered for defendant.

PRISONER'S ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.

The precincts of the Magistracy suddenly became alive with excitement on the 12th August when a coolie who had been sentenced to one week's imprisonment and who was detained in the prisoners' room while the commitment warrant was being made out, took advantage of the lukong's back being turned to bolt through the shroff's room and make a dash for liberty. He sped along into Arbuthnot Road but by this time the alarm had been given and Usher Fox and a number of lukongs were in hot pursuit. He dodged them as they were about to lay hands upon him and dashed into Wyndham Street but fortune deserted him here. He attempted to take the steps into an alley at the same speed, but tripping fell to the bottom. He picked himself up and continued his flight but was stopped by a coolie. The runaway tackled his captor so fiercely that the latter was forced to let him go. However his pursuers had now gained upon him, but before they reached him two coolies tripped him up and he fell heavily to the ground. He was removed to the waiting room where he fainted, but he was soon brought round and on his way to do his six hours' in the stocks at Kowloon.

SENSATIONAL AFFRAY ON THE PRAYA.

A sensational affair with a tragic sequel has just become public. On August 9th P. C. Bond, while on duty in Wing Lok Street, was approached by a Chinaman who complained of having been thrown into the water, and on proceeding to the wharf he met other two natives in dripping clothes who told a similar story and pointed to two men as their assailants. He attempted to arrest them but they resisted. One man caught the officer by the throat and tried to push him into the water. Instead he fell into the harbour himself. The officer, without divesting himself of his heavy clothing, at once dived after the man and caught him as he was sinking the second time. A struggle ensued in the water and finally, realising that he could do nothing to save the man, and that his own life was imperilled, P. C. Bond swam to the wharf, which he reached in a very exhausted condition. The would-be murderer soon sank and the other parties in the affray did not wait till the officer returned to the Praya but disappeared. The affair is up to the present a mystery.

THE HARBOUR MYSTERY.

UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERY.

AN ARREST EXPECTED.

10th August.

The murder revealed by the discovery on the s.s. *Monteagle* on Wednesday is one of the foulest and most gruesome in the annals of the Colony of Hongkong, while at the same time it was one of the most mysterious, and at first blush there appeared little chance of bringing the murderer to justice. But the energy of the local detectives increased in proportion to the magnitude of the crime; an unexpected clue was discovered, and following this up, they have been successful in tracing the movements of the man who arrived in Hongkong with the murdered woman.

These visitors were from Manila. They were passengers by the E. and A. s.s. *Eastern* which vessel arrived in port on Saturday last. According to the steamer's passenger list they travelled as Mr. and Mrs. Jones, but on landing here and going to stay at one of the leading hotels their names were entered as Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

Both are believed to be citizens of the United States, and so far as can be ascertained at present, the man was a captain, or ex-captain, in the American marines.

It would appear that the murder was committed some time on Saturday night, probably between ten and eleven o'clock, for according to the story of the lift boy at the hotel the box was taken down by him before midnight.

When the police visited the room in which the murdered woman and her companion were staying, they discovered three trunks which had been left behind by the man, and these they seized. They have also in their possession the trunk in which the body was placed. It is a brown iron-bound box about two feet six by one foot eight, and has a depth of about two feet. To squeeze the body of a woman about five feet nine inches high into this, it will be realised, must have been a difficult task.

When the murderer had completed it, however, his next arrangement apparently was to keep the corpse from bumping against the sides of the box. To effect this he jammed one of his nightshirts between the body and the wood, thus making more solid the contents with the object of averting suspicion so far as the bearer of the trunk was concerned. The nightshirt thus found bore the initial "J."

After this he secured his victim's jewellery, which is believed to have been of considerable value, and there is also a suspicion that he obtained a sum of money which was in her possession.

On Sunday morning the man called at the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, coolies accompanying him and bearing the box. When a clerk attended him, he said he wanted the trunk forwarded to Hoikow by the s.s. *Singon* which was to leave on the following morning. The box was accepted and placed amongst other luggage on a verandah, the owner leaving when he saw it safely deposited. During the same afternoon, however, the stranger returned, and told the clerk he had changed his mind: he was going to Sydney instead of Hoikow, and would take the box away with him again. It was handed over, and evidently when he left Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's he took the trunk on board the *Monteagle*.

His visit to the local shipping firm, however, was productive of one event which went a long way to assisting the cause of justice, for the clerk whom he approached was fortunately able to furnish a very good description of the criminal. He was a tall man, standing between five feet ten inches and five feet eleven inches, thin and sharp featured. Most of his front teeth were stopped with gold; his eyes were blue and his hair was blonde. He was dressed in a tweed suit, and wore a soft brown hat. This description, we understand, was confirmed by a lady from Manila who was a passenger by the s.s. *Eastern*.

So much has been gleaned by the skilful work of the local detectives who are engaged on the case, and all since Wednesday night. But they have done more; they have been successful in tracing the man, and his arrest is

arrival at Shanghai is expected. He booked his passage to that port by the s.s. *Hongkong Maru*, under what name is at present unknown. But as the wire forwarded by the local authorities should reach the Settlement before the arrival of the steamer, detectives will, no doubt, be aboard before the vessel is moored and effect the arrest.

During the last few days the boatswain of the s.s. *Monteagle*, who saw the man when he boarded that steamer with the box, has been touring the town with detectives on the off-chance of meeting him, but now it is learned he has left the Colony, such search will be no longer necessary.

12th August.

The expectations of the public as well as the police were damped by the telegram from our Shanghai correspondent which appeared in Saturday's issue, stating that the suspected murderer was not aboard the s.s. *Hongkong Maru*. The disappointment, however, has had the effect of spurring the police to still greater exertion, and with the promptitude which has characterised their inquiries since the murder was first made known to them, they have succeeded in obtaining another clue which it is hoped will be the means of bringing about the anxiously awaited arrest.

It is a busy time at the Detective Office just now, and the continual ring of the telephone bell is generally to inform the detectives that a man answering the description of the supposed murderer has been seen at such and such a place. Messrs. Weismann & Co. and the Dairy Farm, Ltd. had been visited by such a man, but police enquiries went to show that in each instance it was not the man they wanted. Amateur Sherlock Holmeses are plentiful at Hongkong just now.

As soon as they were made aware that the man for whom they sought was not a passenger by the s.s. *Hongkong Maru* the detectives redoubled their efforts to again get on the trail. They learned that a man of haggard appearance and with a stubbly beard did board the steamer mentioned at the last minute. He paid his fare and was passed by the doctor at the American Consulate, but his description did not tally with that of the man who is wanted.

The description of another passenger who booked by the s.s. *Tosa Maru* under the name of Jackson did, however. This steamer cleared for Shanghai and Keelung on Tuesday, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's passenger clerk stated that there was a passenger on board whose description tallied with that of the wanted man. This person, the clerk stated, called at the N. Y. K. office on Monday and asked the price of a passage to Shanghai. He was told \$60 and later paid the money, remarking that his baggage was on board and that he was sailing by the vessel.

Just before the steamer left the doctor from the American Consulate and the shipping clerk, both of whom were aboard, saw the suspected man, Jackson, holding conversation with a Miss Smith who was a passenger to Seattle. She came to Hongkong from Manila by the *Kumano Maru*.

The real name of the man suspected of being the perpetrator of this sensational crime is Adzetta. The police learned this from a woman who used to live with him in Manila. From her they also obtained his photograph.

The murdered woman was Gertrude Dayton of Youngstown, Ohio, U.S.A. She was an unfortunate, and aged between 30 and 35. The natural colour of her hair was black, but lately deceased had taken to using dyes and her latest colour was dark auburn. A brush and bottle of dye were found in the room of the hotel at which she was staying.

The value of the jewellery stolen is estimated at \$1,500 gold. The items which Adzetta appropriated before leaving the hotel at which he was staying were, so far as can be learned: one pair of diamond earrings; one ring, pink pearl, set with diamonds; one solitaire diamond ring; one ring, set with two small diamonds; one ring, set with two pearls; one ring, four diamonds and a pearl; one bull-frog pendant, green enamel and diamonds; one breast pin, set with diamonds; one Chinese neck chain, cash pattern, diamond in centre; gold watch set with diamonds, monogram "M. G. M."; one long chain cable pattern; diamond and ruby bracelet; one eagle pin with pearl in

mouth; one small pearl brooch with turquoise drop; small gold chain bracelet; one chain and lock medallion, head set in diamonds.

From enquiries at the pawn shops, the police learned that two diamonds were pawned by a man giving the name of H. Jones for \$55. This money was raised, it is believed, to pay Adzetta's passage on the *Tosa Maru*.

On Saturday afternoon shortly before four o'clock Detective Sergeant Watt arrested a man on suspicion, and took him to the Central Station. Mr. Larson, the boatswain of the steamer *Monteagle*, identified him as the person who took the box on board. There must have been a great resemblance between the man arrested and the man wanted, for it appears the boatswain was mistaken. The police sent for another person who was acquainted with Adzetta and without hesitation she said the man in custody was not he. On her statement the suspect was released.

The police have since learned that the supposed murderer went on board the s.s. *Korea*, after having failed to obtain a passage by the *Hongkong Maru*, and asked one of the officers to endeavour to get him away by that vessel. The seaman approached, however, did not comply with the request.

Yesterday afternoon and last night Chief Detective Inspector Hanson was anxiously awaiting a wire from Shanghai. On receipt of the news that Adzetta did not proceed by the *Hongkong Maru*, the subsequent inquiries of the detectives elicited the information, already mentioned, that a man answering his description had booked by the *Tosa Maru*. This information, unfortunately, was gained too late to admit of a wire arriving at the northern Settlement before the ship. Word has been received that the man wanted got ashore at Woosung and escaped, but the police expect a wire this morning announcing his capture.

The man suspected of committing the terrible crime of last week is still at liberty. At the time of writing, the Hongkong police are confident that he succeeded in reaching Shanghai, but whether he is still in the northern port or has made his way into Siberia or elsewhere is a matter of conjecture. At any rate the Hongkong police can do little more than wait for information from Shanghai. Up till the present the telegram from here has not been officially answered, and the inference is that the authorities are delaying the reply till they are in a position to supply definite news.

Gossip of course is still busy over the affair. It is now declared that the suspect is well known in Shanghai and Tientsin, and that he had a reputation as a pugilist. He is also known under several names, and it is tolerably certain that Adzetta is not his real name. At one time he called himself W. H. Anderson. He is also believed to have served in the U. S. Marines.

It was also stated in Hongkong yesterday that the suspect travelled from Woosung to Shanghai by train and left the railway station in a ricksha.

On Aug. 14 the Hongkong police experienced a feeling of relief when they learned from the *Daily Press* that Adzetta, the man suspected of committing the murder of last week, had been captured at Chefoo. Our news was confirmed later by an official telegram to the Colonial Secretary.

It is not known yet whether the Shanghai police will bring him to Hongkong or whether members of the local force will have to go up for him. At any rate he ought to be on his trial here within two or three weeks.

Information reached Hongkong on Aug. 15th that Adzetta had succeeded in breaking from the British Consulate gaol and evaded re-arrest for some hours when he was captured and placed on board the U. S. *Galveston*.

Adzetta, being now on an American warship, is technically on American soil. If the American law of extradition be the same as the British, there is bound to be difficulty, for it will not be competent for the American commander to give him up, nor for the Consul or Minister to order his surrender. As an American citizen he can claim sanctuary. The case of Guerin, escaped from Devil's Island, elicited the opinion that an Englishman on English soil cannot be extra-

ditioned for any crime committed elsewhere. On the other hand, it is unlikely that the American authorities will be anxious to shield such a man, and as a civilian he cannot claim the right to stay on board. An easy way out of it would be to let him "escape," into the arms of those waiting for him. Very likely they will not trouble about technicalities, but hand him over to British Justice.

The telegrams from Hongkong appear to have excited Shanghai, judging by the papers now arriving.

At 10.30 p.m. on August 9th the detectives returned to Shanghai on board the tender *Vulcan*, and disembarked on the P. & O. jetty in a disappointed frame of mind, we are sorry to say, and—without their man. For this however, they were not to be blamed, seeing that he had not come up with the *Hongkong Maru*; had never sailed on her in fact, from Hongkong. From enquiries made on board the vessel the officers learned that such a man as the one described had gone on board the *Hongkong Maru* just before she left Hongkong, and said he wanted a passage to Shanghai where he knew some friends, gambling men and "Sports" who would get him a job. He was "down on his luck" he said having had a row with a Frenchwoman with whom he had been travelling, and he had no money. He had some jewellery, however, with which he offered to pay for his passage, but this offer being refused he added that he would go on shore again, raise money on the gam, and pay for his ticket in the usual way. The officers of the ship agreed that this would be the best course and the man left the ship, saying he would return later, but this it seems, he never did.

One paper remarks. "If this individual should prove to be the one wanted by the Hongkong police, it is a matter for surprise that his movements should have been so carelessly followed."

That of course, would be written in ignorance of the fact that the Hongkong police were not aware of the crime till nearly three full days after the *Hongkong Maru* had gone. They were told that the man had gone on board that ship, which proved correct, but no one told them that he had left it. Apparently this disappointment made the Shanghai police less careful, for when they got the telegram directing attention to the *Tosa Maru*, they did not go down to Woosung as they did before, but waited for its arrival at the Shanghai wharf. He man disembarked at Woosung, and so they had another disappointment. However, these mutual recriminations are useless. The Hongkong police have not done at all badly, and the Shanghai police are to be congratulated for so smartly recovering a lost scent.

The latest event in the trunk tragedy is the exhumation of the body of the murdered woman, which took place on Thursday afternoon. The police, Dr. Macfarlane, and Miss Josie Marshall a woman from Manila, were present, and the last named identified the body as that of Gertrude Dayton. The body was immediately afterwards interred.

So far as can be ascertained, no escort has been sent from Hongkong to Shanghai to bring Adzetta back to the Colony, and public interest has been excited as to what course will be pursued. It cannot be regarded as the duty of the Shanghai police or even those at Chefoo to convey the suspect to Hongkong and it may be inferred from the delay which has taken place that the matter is not altogether free from difficulties.

The first Manila papers to contain anything new about the murder case reached us on Aug. 16.

The *Cable News* seems to know all about the suspect, and prints his name as W. H. Atessa. It says he was formerly a member of the Twenty-Eight Regiment of Volunteers in these islands and later a sergeant in the Marine Corps. He was a guard of the American Legation at Peking, China.

He is known up and down the China coast as a would-be sport, a consort of lewd women, and a gainer by their earnings. The police here are searching every ship that arrives from China to find this man.

The police of Hongkong found that the woman had arrived on the steamship *Eastern* August 3rd, and that she was accompanied by a man. The couple gave the name of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jones on the *Eastern*. The police

of Hongkong communicated with the police in Manila and the best detectives here were put on the case.

The murdered woman was well known here in the under world. She had been in Manila about a year when she left. She came here from China and became the house-keeper and an inmate of the house at 92 calle Alejandro VI. This house was conducted by Beatrice Booth who also had another establishment at 41 calle Beten.

Gertrude Dayton was far above the middle height, with brown eyes, and rather faded looking. She possessed a fine voice and had been an actress. Some weeks ago one of the Booth women's establishments was burned in the middle of the night and she claimed a heavy loss on jewelry and furnishings. She was in a bad way financially, as she had bought Smith's restaurant some time before and lost many thousands in the business which was managed by Louis Heymann. The latter married a companion of Beatrice Booth. Finally the creditors seized the restaurant.

When the fire occurred Miss Booth transferred the insurance to Gertrude Dayton to prevent the creditors from getting it. Miss Dayton collected about four thousand pesos.

It was about this time, July 18, that W. H. Atkes appeared on the scene. He was well acquainted in Manila having served here as a soldier, and having mixed in tenderloin society. He took up with the Dayton woman and they resided together at the Hotel de Francia, as also did Josie Marshall, another Sampaloc denizen. Gertrude Dayton was supposed to have at this time from five to ten thousand pesos in money and jewels. On July 30 she accompanied Atkes on the *Easton*, and under the name of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jones, and with Josie Marshall, sailed for Hongkong.

The details of their trip and of where they went on arrival in Hongkong are not known here. They could not have been in a hotel there more than a day before Gertrude Dayton was killed.

Beatrice Booth left here for Japan on the *Kumano Maru* on August 3, supposedly following the Dayton woman in an effort to get back the insurance which it was said Miss Dayton refused to return. Booth arrived in Hongkong three days after the murder.

Gertrude Dayton, during her short career in these islands made several visits to points outside of Manila. She is said to have made a tour of the southern island touching at the principal towns between here and Zamboanga. At the latter port she remained several days and is said to have captivated several of the youths of that town with her excellent singing and dancing. Upon her return to Manila she was in possession of several handsome presents which she was proud to exhibit to her acquaintances in this city. Miss Dayton, as a girl, was well brought up, her manners were rather refined, she had a good education, was a brilliant conversationalist and was thoroughly musical and entertaining. She was tall and slender and had a fair complexion. She had been an actress.

Miss Jessie Lesser, proprietress of the house that Gertrude Dayton resided in while in Manila claims that the murdered woman is not Miss Dayton, saying that she left Hongkong on the *Shawmut*, which sailed from that port before the murder took place.

A well known Manilaan says: "I knew the suspect, who was recently stationed at the American Legation in Peking, as being in the service of the Marines. Several months ago he obtained his discharge and went to Shanghai where he was considered a 'crooked' gambler. After staying in Shanghai several weeks he married a woman of the red light district, and shortly afterwards was compelled to leave the city by Judge Wilfey. He came to Manila and immediately renewed his acquaintance with the Dayton woman."

Mr. J. Kortals Altes, General Manager, and Mr. G. van Thiel de Vries, Technical Manager, representing the East Asiatic Dredging Co., Ten Bokkel Huinink, Kortals Altes van Thiel de Vries & Co., contractors for dredging operations in the Huangpu and also for the building of the breakwater, have arrived in Shanghai and operations will start very shortly.

THE TAXATION QUESTION AT MACAO.

AN INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES OF THE RECENT AGITATION.

The Chinese at Macao during the past few months have been greatly perturbed over the operations of the revenue department of the Colonial Government. For reasons, whether sound or otherwise we shall presently endeavour to make clear, the Chinese population has been agitated by a belief that new taxes were being imposed; and they have held a number of meetings to discuss the situation. The last meeting was attended by upwards of two thousand persons, which is *prima facie* evidence of a wide-spread belief that they have a grievance. Our correspondent at Macao, an old resident of the Colony as familiar with the Chinese language as with Portuguese, has in his letters to the *Daily Press* reflected the views which his own inquiries have led him to adopt, namely, that new and increased taxes are being levied. Official denials of these allegations have been published in our columns and by placards posted in Macao, but curiously enough the letter from the Protector of Chinese which recently appeared in the *Daily Press* seemed to refute the denial which it was intended to make. In view of the perplexing nature of the correspondence and the wide-spread public interest aroused in the question, a representative of the *Daily Press* has visited Macao for the purpose of inquiring into the matter and ascertaining, if possible, how these conflicting views are to be reconciled. The result is the following statement of the situation:

THE ORIGIN OF THE AGITATION.

The officials, from whom I received the fullest assistance in the prosecution of my inquiries, met the statement that an attempt had this year been made to impose new and increased "industrial contributions" with an emphatic denial. There are two kinds of industrial taxes levied—a fixed tax or license fee upon industrial establishments of all descriptions in the Colony, and a "variable tax" which the Protector of Chinese in his letter to the *Daily Press* described as an "industrial tax on annual profits." This, however, seems to be an erroneous description of the tax. It is a tax on the earnings of professional men, such as doctors, surgeons, lawyers, teachers, notaries, solicitors, valuers, composers and other persons exercising similar professions and is chargeable on incomes exceeding \$100 p. a. An inquiry as to whether carpenters and masons came in that category, was answered in the negative, though in what respect, for the purposes of taxation, a carpenter or an engineer differs from a compositor, I am unable to explain. I mentioned the case of a runner in the service of one of the hotels who told me that his wages were \$15 a month (in addition, I suppose, to his board and lodging), and he is taxed on that income twelve dollars and some odd cents per annum. It was explained to me that such a man would rank in the professions as a "broker" and was therefore properly liable to taxation. The tax on these "industrial incomes" is six per cent, plus a surcharge of 40 per cent, for municipal and other purposes. A menial, though he earns more than \$100 per annum, is exempt from taxation. So also is a "workman."

These taxes have been on the statute books of the Colony for more than fifty years, and I was informed by the officials that they have always been levied. I can only conclude from my further inquiries that in the past the tax-gatherer has performed his duties in a most indulgent manner, for these taxes have undoubtedly struck the Chinese this year as something new. In his recent letter to the *Daily Press*, the Protector of Chinese reported Mr. Lu Cau, one of the principal Chinese magnates of the Colony, as saying that this tax on industrial incomes had "erroneously been regarded as a poll tax." And Mr. Lu Cau pointed out that "this tax, far from being a source of revenue to the Exchequer would be a hindrance to the development of Macao." Why should one of the leading Chinese merchants speak in terms like these if the tax did not appear to the Chinese as a new tax? When I put this question to a prominent official he suggested that an erroneous impression was created by the sentence owing to the

writer's imperfect acquaintance with the English language. What was meant was not only that the tax would be a hindrance to the development of Macao, but that it has been, is and ever will be so. If that is the case, why have the people suddenly awoke to the fact?

The explanation of the whole matter would seem to be that there is a new broom in the revenue department which has been making a clean sweep. The Chief of the Fazenda has found that it is the law of the Colony that these taxes shall be paid and he has accordingly called for the necessary information to enable him to assess the tax which each individual liable to pay taxes ought properly to contribute to the Exchequer. Moreover, he has printed and published the tables of contributions payable by the industrial establishments in the Colony and it would also appear that he has in some cases revised the assessments, that is to say, some establishments which previously were ranked in the first class have been placed in a higher class, and the proprietors accordingly called upon to pay higher licences. I was officially informed, however, that this could only apply to very few cases and that the great majority of the establishments paid at the minimum rates. Whoever is aggrieved has the right to appeal against the assessment.

These industrial taxes on shops cannot be described as burdensome, but the six per cent plus the surcharge of forty per cent, on annual incomes must be an onerous tax on the wages of a large number of people who, according to the law, are liable to pay it. By the latest Estimates published—those for the year ending June 1907—it appears that out of a total revenue of about \$1,400,000 only a paltry \$33,000 is derived from the shop taxes and the industrial income tax combined. It seems incredible that these taxes, if exactly levied and rigorously enforced, would not yield a larger revenue than this in a city of 90,000 people, and *prima facie* the smallness of the revenue supports the view that in the past there has been an indulgent execution of the law. The Government has contented itself with what the assessment has happened to produce, and it is simply, in fact, the appearance of an intention to be less indulgent that has raised the hornets' nest.

WHY NOT ABANDON THESE TAXES?

The Chinese suggestion aiming at the abolition of these taxes is not as unreasonable as at first sight it might appear. The Estimates for 1906-7 show an expected surplus of revenue over expenditure amounting to about half a million dollars, all of which I understand would go to Lisbon for imperial purposes. The dropping of such troublesome and vexatious taxes as those which have excited the agitation, yielding as they do a revenue of only \$33,000 and costing to collect, I venture to think, more than the whole of the rest of the total revenue, would entail no hardship or inconvenience to the government of the Colony. H.E. the Governor, who certainly manifests every desire to do his best for the Colony, is, I understand, engaged at the present time in drawing up regulations with regard to these industrial taxes with a view to restoring confidence and contentment among the Chinese. But the conclusion is irresistible that any tax in the nature of a capitation tax—call it by what name you will—is arbitrary, uncertain, troublesome and vexatious. The state of a man's fortune varies from month to month and year to year, and the annual inquisition of the revenue department is more intolerable than the tax itself. In whatever country such taxes have been levied they have always generated a quarrelsome, discontented attitude on the part of the people, whether the tax was light or heavy. It would be to the advantage of the Macao Government in many ways to entirely abolish these taxes. They are not necessary to the support of the administration and must in their very nature be, as Lu Cau has said, a hindrance to the development of trade. Even if there were no taxes either on shops or income, the Government of Macao would still have a revenue from the gambling monopolies and the opium farm which would leave a handsome surplus over the expenditure, notwithstanding the fact that Macao relatively bears a far larger proportion of imperial expenditure than does the Colony of Hongkong.

Sometime ago the *Daily Press* correspondent reported that it had been decided to raise a loan of \$50,000 to rebuild the gaol, and he suggested that to pay the interest on this loan additional taxation would be necessary. This is not the case, however. I understand that this loan has been arranged with the local Bank at 7 per cent., and that in order to provide a fund for the payment of interest the Government have agreed to grant to the Senado 40 per cent. of the proceeds of the pig slaughtering fees instead of only 25 per cent. as heretofore. What I cannot understand is the reason for raising a loan at all when the budgets are showing annual surpluses of ten times the amount of the loan. And what is the matter with the Government of Macao, if it can not raise money at less than 7 per cent?

MACAO'S BALANCE SHEET.

The revenue of Macao for 1906-7 was estimated to amount to something over \$1,400,000. A house tax of 10 per cent. produces about \$38,000; the industrial taxes above discussed yield about \$38,000; the opium farm provides \$350,000; the Fantan monopoly \$450,000; other gambling monopolies about \$160,000. The Santa Casa Lottery pays 8 per cent. on the total value of the tickets issued each month. Four per cent. goes to the Government and the other four per cent. to the Santa Casa de Misericordia. There is besides these sources of revenue a voluntary police tax paid by the Chinese business establishments yielding about \$100,000 a year.

The estimated expenditure for the same year was just below a million dollars. The headings of expenditure cover general administration, revenue department, judicial department, Ecclesiastical department (on which the expenditure amounts to about \$40,000 a year), the harbour department (\$104,000), the military (\$400,000) and other miscellaneous charges including a contribution of \$60,000 to the Colony of Timor. This fixed charge is sometimes supplemented by further grants. The Colony of Macao also provides the greater part of the cost of maintaining the Portuguese Legation at Peking and the Consulates in China and Japan. Until recently a Legation at Tokyo was also supported, but the Tokyo Legation having been closed some reduction in expenses will naturally follow. The maintenance of the Legations and Consulates heretofore have been estimated to cost about \$100,000 a year, and towards this expenditure the Home Government has contributed \$10,000; the Portuguese concession at Bangkok \$4,000, and consular fees have produced about \$2,500—a total of \$16,500, leaving the Colony of Macao to provide the balance, \$83,500 or thereabouts. And yet the Estimates of the Colony for the year just concluded showed an estimated surplus of about half a million dollars.

It may here be added that there are grounds for expecting that the Government of Macao will presently be relieved of the fixed charge in aid of Timor and will be required to assist that Colony only in exceptional circumstances.

THE TRADE OF MACAO.

As a consequence of an exceptionally severe outbreak of plague in the first half of the year, followed as it has been by this agitation with regard to taxes, it has been inferred that the trade of the Colony has greatly suffered. It is gratifying to learn on the indisputable evidence of the Customs returns that there has, despite these circumstances, been a distinct improvement both in the imports and exports. The Import figures for the first half of this year amounted to Tls. 8,289,117, as compared with Tls. 7,102,310 in the corresponding half of last year. With regard to exports the returns to the end of June show this year a total of Tls. 7,839,951 as compared with Tls. 5,846,396 in the corresponding semester of last year. The Import and Exports together show an improvement of more than three million tals as compared with last year's figures, which is eminently satisfactory.

It is admitted that during the plague scare there was a large exodus of Chinese from the Colony, but it is declared that the returns of the harbour department show that the Chinese have gradually returned to the Colony and it is believed by the officials that the population is not now much below normal figures.

CONTEMPLATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

With good administration there is no reason why Macao should not hold up its head among

the foreign settlements of the East. All who know anything of Sr. Coutinho d'Almeida, the present Governor, have every confidence in his desire to promote the welfare of the Colony. General Branco, who is now in the Colony for the purpose of reporting on schemes for the improvement of the harbour, the sanitary improvement of the city and the improvement of the water supply may confidently count upon the support of His Excellency the Governor being given to all these projects. I gather that His Excellency does not entertain any idea that the execution of these projects may be postponed by the Home Government to the Greek Calends. He looks forward to their commencement at a reasonably early date. As regards funds it is the intention, I take it, to retain the annual surpluses instead of remitting them to Lisbon. The Government of Macao may look forward for many years to these large surpluses unless important public works are undertaken. It is proposed to dredge the harbour so that vessels drawing 16 feet of water may enter the port at any time.

The inhabitants of Macao can scarcely be expected to feel very sanguine about the matter. As I write I have before me a copy of a very strongly worded petition to the King of Portugal on the subject, forwarded by the inhabitants of Macao in 1891 in which they complained of the complete indifference of the Home Government to the future of the Colony. Here is a paragraph from that petition:—

"The petitioners, discouraged as they are by the result of their frequent appeals, make one more appeal to the magnanimity of your Majesty, asking that you will deign to order that the Government of this province may be authorised—as we know they have more than once asked—to apply the provision made in the budget for the purchase of one or more dredgers—which are necessary to deepen the channel of the port of Macao—and to construct the works necessary to regulate the currents (which have already been rendered stronger in the inner harbour by the construction of the Green Island embankment), and that other less urgent works be deferred to a more convenient season."

Whether the recommendations of Sr. Branco on the subject will meet with any more consideration than the voluminous report of Sr. Adolpho Loureiro, an eminent engineer, who was sent out many years ago to report on the subject, remains to be seen. The day this authority arrives for the commencement of this work will certainly be a day of rejoicing in Macao.

Our Macao correspondent sends us some comments on the letter which have appeared in the *Daily Press* from the Protector of Chinese and from "An Enquirer" who made a number of statements reflecting on our correspondent, professedly on the authority of the Colonial Secretary of Macao. With regard to the letter from "An Enquirer" our correspondent says that the writer of that letter evidently knew nothing of the subject, or he would never have written as he did. Answering the statement that the taxes decided upon in 1887 have not been put in force, our correspondent states that thousands of copies of the instructions and tables of industrial taxes have been distributed and a comparison of the list with the old taxes will satisfy anyone as to whether the charge of exaggeration or misrepresentation is honestly made. Our correspondent says that the statements made by "An Enquirer" on the alleged authority of the Colonial Secretary are contrary to the well-known and undisputed facts of the case, and he is unable to understand how anyone who discussed the matter with the Colonial Secretary could write on the subject as "An Enquirer" has done. The new taxes have not only been published in the official *Boletim*, but they have been published in pamphlet form and distributed throughout the Colony. Moreover, placards relating to them have been posted everywhere about the city, and our correspondent suggests that we should show to "An Enquirer" the copies he has sent to us. We are quite willing to show them to any one interested in the matter. Our correspondent adds that no official notice has yet been published cancelling the new taxation. Many telegrams, he says, have been sent by the Government of Macao to Lisbon asking for

instructions but no reply has yet been received.

In view of the conflicting statements made on the subject, we hope to publish the result of an independent investigation of the question in an early issue.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

August 9th.

AN OFFICIAL TO BE WATCHED.

It is reported that some time ago the manager of a certain British firm here purchased a large piece of land somewhere near Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's godown on the back reach of the Canton River. The assignment or perpetual lease was sent to the Poon Yu Magistracy for registration. Magistrate Liu Hing Tong declined to register the deed and delayed the matter for several months. His excuse was that he had to make inquiries as to whether the land was within the treaty port limit. But there was no doubt that the property was within the treaty port limit. In the meantime Liu wrote a despatch to ex-Viceroy Chou stating that he understood that the Chinese Government intends to build up a new town in that locality and he did not see why foreigners should be permitted to purchase land there and thus reap all the benefit first and requested His Excellency to issue an order prohibiting the transfer of all land there. He supported his argument by stating that the site selected for the new town is beyond the treaty port limit. Viceroy Chou gave instructions to the Commissioner of Customs to investigate and report on the matter. The Commissioner recently replied that he is not in possession of a certified map of Canton, and he is unable to state whether the piece of land in question is within the treaty port limit or not. Recently instructions were given by the acting Viceroy Wu to the Director of the Ho Nam Reclamation Department to investigate the matter. The Director replied that the property was outside of the boundary of the proposed new town locality. It is said that upon receipt of the above answer His Excellency ordered the Poon Yu Magistrate to register the deed without any further delay. The Poon Yu Magistrate Liu although pro Chinese is said to be a very conservative official. Petitions are received by all the yamens from Viceroy and downward whether presented by petitioners personally or by their attorney so long as they are properly written out and chopped by a "Ti Pao". Magistrate Liu prefers to adopt the ancient rule that all petitions must be handed in his yamen personally by the petitioners. It appears that instructions were given to his clerks to question all persons handing in petitions as to whether they are the petitioners and if not to refuse to accept their petitions and to beat them. Many people, men and women, have recently been molested by the yamen runners and clerks in this way. The public are not satisfied with the unreasonable and cruel measures adopted by him.

FIRE AT WANCHAI.

Shortly after one o'clock Friday morning a fire occurred in a general store at No. 21 Praya East, under somewhat peculiar circumstances. About that hour and for sometime, before rain had been falling heavily, so heavily that the uneven pavement before this shop was flooded, and it was not long before the water in the shop was ankle deep. This the owner discovered, and jumping out of bed decided to look round and see if his stock was damaged.

This shop is licensed to sell kerosene, and the oil is kept in a well sunk into the floor. Consequently when the water flooded the floor it got into the well and the oil rose to the surface. The storekeeper in examining his goods struck a match and when it had nearly burned down threw it away. Immediately there was a big blaze and not many minutes elapsed before the building was gutted. The Wanchai section of the brigade arrived on the scene shortly after the alarm, being followed by the firemen from the Central, but all were too late to be of any assistance. The stock in the shop was valued at \$700, and there was no insurance.

VOLUNTEER TROOP GYMKHANA.

The members of the Hongkong Volunteer Troop were "at home" to their friends on the Polo ground at Causeway Bay on August 17th, and right well they entertained them. Rain threatened another postponement of the gathering before noon, but fortunately the weather cleared and although the afternoon was rather hot it was in favour of the Troop. As a consequence there was a large gathering at the carnival to witness the feats of skill of the Volunteers, and the scene on the Polo ground was rendered more imposing by the presence of a large number of ladies attired in summer costumes. A match had been erected to screen spectators from the rays of the sun, but the design was not a good one and the occupiers soon found it necessary to go to the rear of this to find the shade. Doubtless the defect will be remedied for the next gymkhana. There were also booths where tea and cake was served and where the gentlemen might partake of stronger refreshment. The band of the Middlesex regiment was in attendance and played selections during the intervals between events. Shortly after the conclusion of the third item in the programme His Excellency the Governor, Lady Lugard and party arrived and were conducted to the sea reserved for the gubernatorial party. Among others present by this time were Sir Francis Pigott, Hon. Mr. F. H. May, and His Excellency Major-General R. G. Broadwood. Aggregate prizes on the day's events were presented by Messrs. G. K. Hall Brutton, A. J. Williams, A. C. Hynes, W. S. Dupree, G. C. Moxon, J. Paterson, H. W. Looker, C. H. Ross, H. P. White and W. R. M. D. Parr. The judges were Major-General Broadwood and Captain A. J. Thompson, R.A., who fulfilled their duties to the satisfaction of all concerned. The programme was as under:—

LEMO CUTTING WITH SWORDS.—Start from the "Slope," "Engage," "Assault," make cuts 1, 2, on the right, Slope Swords. Two runs for each Competitor. Third runs for those called for by Judges.

Trooper T. C. Vernon ... 1
Trooper R. F. C. Master ... 2
Trooper W. S. Dupree ... 3

HEADS AND POSTS.—Start from the "Slope," "Engage," "Assault," cut 1 on the right, point 1 on the left, cut 2 and cut 4 on the right, point 4 on the right, Slope Swords. Two runs for each competitor. Third runs only for those called for by the Judges.

Trooper H. W. Looker ... 1
Trooper F. C. Hall ... 2
Troop Sergt.-Major G. C. Moxon ... 3

TENT PEGGING BY HALF SECTION.—Two runs for all competitors after which the judges will call for further runs, if necessary. Competitors who in the opinion of the judges are not riding at a sufficiently rapid pace will be disqualified.

Troopers R. F. C. Master and W. S. Dupree ... 1
Troop Sergt.-Major G. C. Moxon and Trooper L. N. Leefe ... 2
Troopers A. G. Roberts and A. C. Hynes ... 3

LED PONY RACE.—Ride one pony and lead another (both saddled) over a figure of 8 course. Ponies may be led either by bridle or headrope.

Trooper R. F. C. Master, leading Trooper T. C. Vernon's pony ... 1
Trooper W. S. Dupree, leading Lieut. C. H. Ross's pony ... 2
Trooper F. C. Hall, leading Trooper A. Morfey's pony ... 3

VICTORIA CROSS RACE. Single entries. Dummies representing wounded men will be placed on the ground at a point indicated. Troopers to gallop up to their dummies under fire, lift same on to their saddles and return to winning post.

Trooper F. C. Hall } dead heat.
Trooper Dupree }
Trooper R. F. C. Master ... 3

This event was productive of no little amusement to the spectators. Eight dummies were placed on an imaginary battlefield, and it was the task of the heroes who competed to rescue them under a withering rifle fire. A tripod was erected on the ground, and to this was attached a bundle of crackers. On each side of the course along which the Volunteers had to proceed three riflemen were stationed, and

as the gallant troopers went on their mission of life saving at the gallop the enemy pitilessly blazed away, while the crackers which the China ponies had to face made a din which they strongly disapproved of, and the prancing and capering of the miniature war horses was sufficient evidence of their desire to flee from the field of battle. Sometimes a trooper would raise his fallen comrade to the pony's back, but while he endeavoured to mount the restless animal the wounded man would fall headlong to the turf. Other troopers could not persuade their ponies to face such a galling fire and found it necessary to abandon the hope of rescue and fly to a quieter spot. Trooper Hall who was first to enter and escape from the "jaws of death" was closely followed by Trooper Dupree who caught him upon the race home and the pair passed the winning post neck and neck, Trooper Master being a good second.

LADIES' NOMINATION RACE.—Troopers to be nominated by a lady. Ladies to line up in front of grand stand. Start from a point indicated, ride up to a tethering post, undo headrope, remove bridle, and tie up pony to post. With bridle on arm run up to lady and hand her tunic with all buttons off and chain straps unhooked. Lady to put in buttons and fix on straps and assist her partner to put on his tunic, which must be properly buttoned up, etc., as if for a parade. Return to pony, unhitch from post, put on bridle, tie up headrope, mount and ride past winning post.

Trooper E. Howard, nominated by Mrs. Bellios ... 1
Trooper H. B. L. Dowbiggin, nominated by Mrs. Ormiston ... 2

Troop Sergt.-Major G. C. Moxon, nominated by Mrs. Moxon ... 3

As was to be expected of them, the ladies were very smart in fixing the buttons in the gentlemen's coats—at least, the majority of them were. There were a few, however, who appeared to be overcome with nervousness, and so long did they tarry that the ponies, who were not properly tethered got loose and started riderless for their stables. Sergt.-Major Moxon was the first man dressed according to regulations, but Trooper Dupree was the first to mount. As he did not observe the conditions, however, he lost the race.

RUNNING AND LEADING RACE.—Entries in pairs. Course rectangular, angles say A, B, C, D. Even number will lead his partner's pony round ABC, which odd number will run from A to C. At C, even number will dismount and run to A, odd number will mount and lead round CDA. At A even number will mount and the pair will then ride as a half section past winning post.

Troopers R. F. C. Master and W. S. Dupree ... 1
Troopers F. C. Hall and A. Morfey ... 2
Troopers E. Howard and H. B. L. Dowbiggin ... 3

MESSAGE RACE.—Entries in pairs. Pairs will ride to a point indicated, even number will draw his rifle from bucket, dismount, fire two round blank and hand his pony to odd number, and double to front of Grand Stand, "Order Arms" and stand to attention. Odd number will take led pony to a point marked by a flag and halt. When all the even numbers have arrived in front of the Grand Stand, the Judge will read out in a clear voice a "message" which the even numbers will commit to memory. In connection with this message maps may be consulted but written notes may not be taken. Even number will then rejoin his partner, return his rifle to bucket and communicate the message to him, after which he will mount his own pony. Odd number having learnt the message, will draw his rifle, dismount, fire two rounds blank, hand his pony to even number, and double to a point indicated where will be found a table, cards and pencils. He will write out the message, sign his name, hand the card to the person in charge of the table, rejoin partner, mount, return and ride with partner to winning post.

Corporal A. J. Williams and Trooper W. S. Dupree ... 1
Troopers R. G. Munro and F. C. Hall ... 2
Troop Sergt.-Major G. C. Moxon and Trooper R. F. C. Master ... 3

To many this was the most interesting event of the day and displayed the qualities of some of our Volunteers as despatch bearers. The

message, to one not conversant with the names of local villages, was a somewhat difficult one. Here it is:—"Ride to the Volunteer Camp near He Sheung Heung; tell him, the Officer commanding the Troop, to occupy without delay the blockhouse at Kong Tan He and the police station at Shataukok placing six men and a N.C.O. in charge of each place with 200 rounds of ammunition per man and three days rations. With the balance of his troop he is to patrol the telephone lines between the blockhouse and Sheung Shui and Shataukok and Fanning, doing his utmost to prevent these lines from interference on the part of the natives."

The winner's translation was—"Take a message to the Volunteer Officer commanding the Volunteer Corps at Ho Sheung Heung and tell him to occupy the blockhouse at Kao Teng Hung with a small force. Then take a patrol of six men to the police station at Shataukok with 200 rounds of ammunition each and ration for three days. With the remainder of his force he is to guard the telephone lines between Shataukok, Kao Teng Hung blockhouse, He Sheng Heung and Fanning to prevent the natives from interfering with the wires."

Other translations were:—

"Tell the Volunteer Camp at Ho Sheung Heung to guard the telegraph wires to—and leave a non-commissioned officer and six men there with three days' rations (no more)."

"Go to the Volunteer Camp at Shen Hing Fung and instruct the commandant of the Volunteers to occupy the blockhouse near Lo Fu Feung without delay and patrol with six men."

"Ride to Shun Sheir and tell the officer of the mounted troop to occupy the blockhouse at Sha a Cok and Lo Shui Shui, leaving in charge an officer and six men with three days rations and 300 rounds of ammunition. Then tell him to proceed to Fanning Lo Shun Shui taking care to keep the roads clear from incursions of the natives."

BALACLAVA MELEE. To be competed for by half the Troop *versus* the other half. Leaders will be selected, and they will select the teams by lot. No spurs allowed. Competitors will be provided with dummy swords and cockades, half the Troop blue and the remainder red. The object of the competition is to knock off your opponents' cockades. Opponents' ponies may not be hit. Competitors must keep within bonds, and retire at once when cockade is knocked off.

The Balacava mêlée was an interesting event, and the spectators appeared highly amused to see the amateur "tommies" getting considerably knocked about with dummy swords. As stated previously, the object in the competition was to knock off an opponent's cockade, but the troopers went at it with such a will that it appeared more likely some of the fighters would knock off their adversaries' heads. A hard fought fight ended in a win for the Reds, who fought in close order and weakened their opponents' attack by dividing their force. The winning detachment was composed of Troop Sergt.-Major G. C. Moxon (leader), Sergt. G. K. Hall Brutton, Troopers C. H. Blason, H. L. Dowbiggin, H. W. Looker, R. F. C. Master, G. E. Morrell, P. C. Potts, A. G. Roberts, T. C. Vernon, A. J. Williams.

Lieut. C. H. Ross commanded the Blues, the other units being Troopers E. Buxton Forman, W. S. Dupree, F. C. Hall, E. A. Hankey, E. Howard, A. Morfey, R. G. Munro, A. C. Hynes, L. N. Leefe, J. Paterson.

Aggregate prizes: The first aggregate prize was won by Trooper Dupree, Trooper Master taking the second, Trooper Hall the third, Trooper Vernon the fourth and Troop Sergt.-Major Moxon the fifth.

When the sports were over, Lady Lugard complied with a request to present the prizes. On completion of her task, and at the call of Lieut. C. H. Ross, the Volunteer Troop raised three cheers to her Ladyship, who thanked them very much and retired.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to the following Ordinances:—Ordinance No. 1 of 1907, entitled—An Ordinance to amend the Probates Ordinance, 1897: Ordinance No. 2 of 1907, entitled—An Ordinance for the incorporation of the Hongkong College of Medicine,

COMPANIES.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held on August 17th in the City Hall. Mr. G. H. Medhurst (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. H. Keewick (Deputy Chairman), Messrs A. Fuchs, A. Haupt, C. R. Lensmann, A. J. Raymond, E. Shellim, R. Shewan, H. A. W. Slade, H. E. Tompkins (directors), J. R. M. Smith (chief manager), J. C. Peters (chief accountant), C. W. May, G. de Champeaux, R. Mitchell, J. Whealey, R. H. Hynd, E. F. Mackay, H. N. Mody, Cheung Koon Sin, G. Piercy, Ho Kom Tong, A. F. Smith, W. Dunbar, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shui, G. C. C. Master, Ellis Kadoorie, Lau Pun Chin, E. S. Kadoorie, S. H. Michael, J. Bar'on, Wong Ieung Lim, A. Forbes, W. H. Wickham, F. Smyth, F. Maitland, and E. G. Barrett.

The Manager having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN read the report for the half year and afterwards said—Gentlemen, I feel confident that the report which I have just read will meet with a favourable reception from you, and that the proposed distribution of profits will likewise receive your approval. Looking at the balance sheet and comparing the present figures with those shown on 31st December last, you will find on the whole a substantial increase. I will refer briefly to the principal changes. Our note circulation has gone up to \$181 lacs, being an increase of \$20 lacs, and is \$81 lac in excess of our authorised issue. This excess we are required to cover by the deposit with the Hongkong Government of dollar for dollar, and you will observe that the condition has been more than complied with for the amount, as shown in the other side of the account, so deposited is ten millions of dollars. Both silver and gold current accounts have increased; the large increase of \$184 lacs in the gold accounts being due, in a great measure, to proceeds of loans recently floated in London for foreign governments remaining with our office there at the time the accounts were made up. Fixed deposits in silver and gold, also bills payable show comparatively little change. On the other side of the account you will see that our cash and bullion in hand and in transit, taken together, are \$39 lacs higher. Bills, discounted loans and credits are less by \$32 lacs, but bills receivable show the large increase of nearly twenty five millions of dollars which points to a very considerable expansion of our exchange business. There is no market change in the other items calling for comparison. Those present are only too well aware that trade locally and indeed throughout China during the period under review has continued to suffer from the depression referred to by my predecessor in this chair, and this reflected in the fall in prices of many local stocks and shares. Fortunately in other places where we are established a more active and prosperous condition of affairs has been experienced and we are therefore able to come before you not only with satisfactory results but also with the gratifying proof of an increased turnover. Our branches extend, as you know, to many countries and while the wide-spread field of our operations is not without responsibility and anxiety at times, it also has advantages and on the whole makes for steadiness in the expansion and progress of our business and for the equalization of our profits. In India especially, prosperity goes on, I may say, unchecked; the increase in the quantity of her crops and their enhanced value creates a large demand in that country for silver not only as currency to move the crops but also as bullion for manufacture of personal ornaments; its effect is seen in the advance in the price of silver. Whether a high silver level is beneficial or otherwise to the foreign trade of China is an open question: perhaps the more general opinion is that, in the present conditions of the country, a cheap currency, which means a comparatively low exchange, is on the whole best calculated to encourage local enterprises and develop trade, but each side will have its advocates until China is in a position to adopt a gold standard. To the ordinary business

men out here that day seems at present a long way off; no progress is yet apparent towards taking the first practical step of reducing the various provincial silver taels, dollars and subsidiary coins into one uniform standard coinage throughout the Empire. Although I cannot point to any actual improvement in the import trade in the South of China I am glad to say the export season has opened well; the silk crop promises to be a full one and if the coming rice crop is harvested under as favourable conditions as it is now being planted, the success of these two important factors combined cannot fail to materially add to the purchasing power of the people and result in better times for importers all round. Our friends in Shanghai and the North have also been concerned in bringing about a reduction of the large stocks of piece goods and yarn which they have had to carry for so long; in this they were greatly helped by the rise in cotton which prevented new goods being imported at less cost than these held and even led to the unusual spectacle of reshipments of cotton goods to America. The situation has been further assisted by the opening of custom houses at Dalny and on the Russian and Korean borders. This move may be regarded as likely to restore to Newchwang its position as the chief distributing centre for Manchuria. Clearances have been fairly satisfactory lately and as only small supplies are now coming forward the statistical position of the import trade has much improved. The Shanghai silk crop is also an excellent one and may be expected to have the same salutary effect on imports in the Northern that we hope for in the Southern provinces. Altogether with so many factors in our favour there does seem reason to think that our long suspense is drawing to a close, and that the improvement in business which we have so often anticipated is slowly but surely appearing at last. (Applause.) I may mention that calls on the new issue of shares have come in freely. When we meet six months hence I have no doubt the increase of capital will appear complete in the balance sheet, and though it will naturally be some time until the benefit is felt in our business, I think you may rest assured that you will receive a satisfactory return on your money. (Applause.)

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. MACKAY—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, in rising to second the Chairman's proposition, I feel I can add nothing to the very full and instructive review of the situation to which we have just listened, but, I think, I will be only voicing the feelings of those present when I say that a report of such a satisfactory nature could scarcely have been expected, taking into consideration the depressed state of trade generally throughout the Far East, and the increasing competition which has to be faced practically over the entire field of the Bank's operations. The advent of new Banking Institutions must spell smaller margins to the Banker and consequently improved rates to the merchant; from whose point of view they are, of course, to be welcomed, but as a shareholder of this Bank I can only congratulate the management on their excellent showing under such conditions. It proves the soundness and stability of the Bank's business, and points to only one conclusion, that if such excellent results can be produced during a period of depression we may look with confidence to so much better results when the more prosperous times arrive, which in common with your Chairman I believe to be not so far distant. I have much pleasure in seconding the Chairman's proposition that the Report and Accounts, as presented, be adopted.

On the motion of Mr. WHEALEY, seconded by Mr. MITCHELL, the appointment of the Hon. Mr. H. Keewick, Messrs A. Fuchs, E. Shellim and H. A. W. Slade, as directors was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance.

During July the rainfall was 7.385, the heaviest recorded on one day being 2.340 inches on July 24th. The mean for the past 20 years for July is 13.32 inches. The amount of sunshine was 210.5 hours slightly over the mean, which is 200.1.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd. was held at the offices of the Company, Hotel Mansions, on August 13th, Mr. A. Haupt presided, and there were also present Messrs F. A. G. W. Helms, E. R. Lensmann, C. H. Ross, C. Thiel, R. Shewan, A. Fuchs, (directors), Captain W. E. Clarke (secretary), Messrs J. J. Leiria, J. Arnold, J. W. Ellis, H. M. da Silva, E. Georg, W. Dowley, G. de Champeaux, P. Tester, and Chan Sui-ki.

The Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and account having been in your hands for some days, we will, with your permission, take them as read. During the period under review the depression in trade generally has caused a falling off in our freight business, which influences adversely the Chinese passengers traffic. The loss in exchange of Chinese subsidiary coinage has been very heavy, amounting to \$1,042.22. The working of the West River Service continues to give very poor and unsatisfactory results. Poor rice crops and the unsettled state of the people in this part of the country must account in large measure for the present bad trade. Competition on all the lines operated by the Company continues to be very severe, while our disbursements for cost of coal and general upkeep have increased. Our share of the heavy cost of repairs to the steamer *Heungshan* caused by stranding during the typhoon of the 18th September 1906, together with the necessary repairs to complete her overhaul, and increased cabin accommodation to fit her for the Canton line at a cost of \$4,525.36, amounted in all to \$39,153.71. Your Directors are of the opinion that part of these heavy expenses form a just claim on the underwriting account, and, therefore, have debited the Insurance fund with \$50,000, transferring that amount to Profit and Loss Account. Including the above sum of \$1,525.36 there has been expended on the various vessels of the fleet for annual docking and repairs and the cost consequent upon the *Powan* and *Nanning* stranding, a total sum of \$59,334.89. On the 13th June the steamer *Saim* struck a rock when proceeding through the Shiu Hing Gorge, causing serious damage, and in consequence, had to be beached. She has since been refloated and repaired, resuming her run on the 15th ultimo from Canton to Wuchow. The cost of these repairs will come into the second half year's working. Turning to the accounts you will note that the value of the 3/8ths share in the steamer *Powan* transferred to the China Navigation Co., has been deducted from the book value of steamers. Loan on Mortgage has been reduced by \$140,000, and Share Investment Account by \$53,785.00 by sale of certain holdings at a fair profit, which has enabled your Directors to pay off the temporary loan from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The interest on this loan amounting to \$5,300 has been debited to Investment Interest Account. The Investment Fluctuation Account has been adjusted to meet the market value of the shares held by the Company. I do not think that there is anything else that calls for particular notice, but should any shareholder require any further information I shall have much pleasure in answering any questions.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. LEIRIA seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. ELLIS moved the confirmation of the nomination of Messrs R. Shewan, A. Fuchs, C. H. Ross and W. Helms to fill vacancies on the directorate.

Mr. DA SILVA seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. GEORG proposed, Mr. CHAN SUI-KI seconded, and it was agreed that Messrs R. Shewan and W. Helms, retiring members, be re-elected to the Board of Directors.

Messrs A. O'D. Gourdin and W. H. Potts were reappointed auditors, on the motion of Mr. DOWLEY, seconded by Mr. LENSMAAN.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants are now ready, and can be obtained on application.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

The ordinary half yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the Company Queen's Buildings, at noon to-day (19th). Mr. H. P. White presided and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. H. Keswick, Messrs. A. Fuchs, W. Helms, A. Haupt, D. W. Craddock, G. H. Medhurst, S. Silverstone, (directors), R. Mitchell, (acting chief manager), T. J. Rose (secretary), J. P. Braga, Choa Leep-oh, F. E. Ellis, E. Georg, J. W. Graham, Ho Fook, W. C. Jack, Lo Cheung-shin, S. H. Michael, R. Mitchell, E. J. Moser, T. Skinner, H. Percy Smith and Captain W. E. Clarke.

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, It will be observed that we have adopted a slightly different form in stating our accounts for this half year and, as the statement, together with the report, have been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, following our usual course, take them as read. The net profits for the half year ending 30th June 1907 amount to \$401,396.82, and this amount includes the sum of \$34,850, the difference between the book value of the tug *Robert Cooke*, and the amount realised under insurance policies. For purpose of comparison, I may mention that our net profit for the six months ending 31st December, 1906, amounted to \$369,596.36, and \$403,256.44 for the corresponding period last year. Including the \$40,933.74, balance brought forward from last account, and deducting Directors' and Auditors' fees we have available for appropriation the sum of \$791,580.56, and subject to your concurrence, we propose to pay a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent. or \$4.00 per share, absorbing \$200,000.00, place a further \$100,000.00 to the credit of No. 1 Dock Extension Account and carry forward the balance \$491,580.56 to a new account, and we trust the distribution of profits will meet with your approval. It may be thought by some shareholders that the amount carried forward is unduly large, but I would remind you, gentlemen, that my predecessor in the chair in February, 1905, informed you that we had in view an extension to the Boiler Shop, and this work you will gather from the report is about to be proceeded with. The numerous orders that we have in hand for steam vessels proves the necessity for this extension. It is proposed to enclose the land at the back, the purchase of which was completed last year, and to remove the gate entrances, time offices and sundry out-buildings to the new ground, so as to leave space for the addition to the Boiler shop, and we have provided in the additional amount carried forward a sum sufficient to cover this expenditure. The value of "Material on hand" is about the same as in the last account, and you will be pleased to note that the amount due to Sundry Creditors is smaller by \$484,435.46, though the reduction is partly due to the amount received from the underwriters on account of the *Robert Cooke*. Under existing circumstances your directors are of opinion that the figures before you may be considered satisfactory. After fully six months' trial of the conversion of the saw-mill to electric drive, our sawmill reports that an increased output of 40 per cent. is attained, and it is proposed to install a large frame saw, and to convert a hand power crane to electric drive, so that the saw mill may be on a par for efficiency with the other sections of the works. We are now beginning to get the full benefit of the electric power drive as the output approaches the capacity of the plant. The tonnage of the British and Foreign men-of-war docked during the past six months shows a falling off, but on the other hand I am pleased to be able to report that the amount of merchant ship tonnage shows a decided improvement, being 475,140 tons—the largest in any half year since 1900—which may be considered a hopeful sign, as this class of

work is undoubtedly the backbone of our business. As mentioned in the report, most of the damage caused by the typhoon of last year has been made good, there only remaining a sum of about \$5,000 to be expended to complete the necessary repairs and renewals to wharves etc. You will be pleased to note that a start has been made with the lengthening of the No. 1 Dock, so that in due course we shall be able to handle the largest class of vessels coming to Hongkong, and thus materially increase the amount of gross tonnage docked. With the amount already at the credit of the special account, and the sum of \$100,000 which, with your permission, it is proposed to add your Directors are sanguine that the extension will be completed without any call on Shareholders being found necessary. Every effort is being made with a view of effecting economies, consistent with thorough efficiency, and in this connection, I would mention that a sub-committee of directors has been appointed and is now enquiring closely into the general working of the Company's business, dealing more especially with establishment charges, salaries, stock, and our buying agencies. The recommendations of the committee will be submitted to and dealt with by the full Board in due course. In the month of May, Mr. Wilson, lately Acting Chief Manager, went home on leave and Mr. R. Mitchell was appointed in his place. Gentlemen, with nothing further to remark, before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions you may wish to put.

No information was sought, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts, as presented.

Captain CLARKE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that is all the business. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LTD.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works Ltd., was held on July 31st, at Yokohama. Mr. N. F. Smith presided in the absence of Mr. B. C. Howard, the Chairman of the Board, there being also present Messrs. F. J. Abbott, C. B. Bernard, and M. Surth (directors), Mrs. Lowder, Messrs. W. L. Mitchell, W. K. Tresize (manager) J. W. Weaver (foreman of works), and R. T. Bell (Secretary).

The report and statement of accounts for the year ended 31st May last, presented to the meeting, contained the following:—

"The net profit for the year (including the sum of ¥16,232.43 brought forward from May 11st, 1906), after payment of an interim dividend and bonus of ¥39,000 in January last and providing for depreciation of plant and machinery, and payment of directors' and auditors' fees, amounts to ¥31,977.40, which the Directors recommend should be appropriated as follows:—

¥2.50 per share	¥19,500.00
Balance to be carried forward.	12,477.40

¥31,977.40

"Taking into consideration the disadvantages attending the taking over the plant, machinery etc., of the Petersen Engineering Co. and rearranging and placing same, beside working on the basis of a largely increased capital, the directors are of the opinion that the result of the last half-yearly working is eminently satisfactory."

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said:—

"This is the twentieth annual general meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. At our last general meeting the Chairman called your attention to changes that would have to be made in order to utilise the premises and machinery acquired from Petersen & Co. in connection with the plant operated by us prior to the amalgamation. The changes made during the interval have not only been attended with some unforeseen delay, but we have necessarily been working at a considerable disadvantage, as the erection of new buildings on Petersen & Co.'s and our own premises, and the altering of the location of machinery and fittings, have unavoid-

ably and materially interfered with the usual system and uniform regularity heretofore prevailing in the works. So until recently we have not been able to get the full benefit which our present premises and our extra and more conveniently placed plant and machinery afford us. It is a matter for mutual congratulation, therefore, that your directors are able to report that the old premises of Petersen & Co. at Nos. 113 and 114 have been re-arranged, the machinery set in order, and a large and commodious foundry built, which is now in full swing, as is also the case with the new boiler-makers' shed, which has been refitted and adapted to facilitate handy and economical work. The new buildings also at Nos. 159 and 160 (our old premises) are now completed, and comprise blacksmiths', carpenters', boatbuilders', and pattern makers' shops, all of which are in full working order, with the exception of the blacksmiths' shop, which is now being fitted and will be in operation very shortly. In connection with the foregoing observations I would mention that in face of these difficulties our manager, Mr. Tresize, and staff have proved themselves equal to the emergencies referred to, having throughout most energetically and faithfully prosecuted the work committed to their care, not only to the entire satisfaction of our customers, but also to that of your directors. During the last half year shipping business has been rather dull, and consequently our works have not been as actively employed in furnishing supplies and repairs to shipping as in the first half; but taking this feature of our business into consideration, in connection with orders received for local work, your directors consider that the results of the last half year are eminently satisfactory, as noted in the report which we have the pleasure of placing before you this afternoon with the statement of accounts. It will be seen by the balance-sheet that after payment of the interim dividend and bonus for the first half-year making the usual provision for depreciation, directors' and auditors' fees, etc., the net amount of profit available is ¥31,977.04, which the directors recommend shall be appropriated to the payment of a final dividend for the year, say ¥2.50 per share, which will absorb ¥19,500.00, the balance, ¥2,477.34, to be carried forward. This annual report and the statement of accounts have been in your hands for some days, and if there are no objections to the same, I will now ask you to take them as read, if some one will second the motion.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitchell, and carried *nem. con.*

On the motion of Mr. Tresize, seconded by Mr. Weaver, the retiring directors, Messrs. B. C. Howard and F. J. Abbott, were re-elected; while the appointment to the directorate of Messrs. C. B. Bernard and M. Surth was confirmed, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Tresize.

The auditors, Messrs. F. J. Hall and W. Y. Showler, were re-elected, the motion being proposed by Mr. Bernard, and seconded by Mr. Abbott.

There being no other business, the proceedings terminated, the Chairman announcing that dividend warrants would be ready the following day.

Many old China coast hands will learn with regret of the death of Mr. B. E. Nelson, which took place at Chefoo on the 3rd instant. The deceased gentleman, who was in his sixty-third year, came to China in 1884 as Naval Instructor to the Imperial Chinese Navy, having prior to that held a similar position in the British Navy.

The case in which Chan On, a messenger in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was charged with delivering letters to certain firms in the Colony without the same having passed through the Post Office, again came before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz at the Magistracy yesterday. At the previous hearing it was admitted on behalf of the firm that the letter boxes from the firm's steamers were opened in the office and the letters, which were understood to be for consignees, were delivered. On the occasion in question a number of letters, other than for consignees, were found in the possession of defendant, but it was stated that the firm acted in good faith. A fine of \$100 was imposed.

VICEROY SHUM NOT COMING.

RESIGNATION PERMITTED.

THE NEW APPOINTEE.

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Shameen, August 18th said:

Viceroy Shum has been permitted to retire into private life.

The new Viceroy of the two Kwang provinces is Cheong Yan-tsun, whose appointment is officially notified.

Lum Shew-nin has been appointed Governor of Honan.

[Cheong Yan-tsun was judicial commissioner of Kwangtung in 1894; financial commissioner of Shangtung in 1898; director general of transports in 1900; governor of Shangtung in 1901; of Honan in 1902; of Kwangtung in 1903; and of Shansi in 1905.]

[Lum Shew-nin was governor of Kwangsi in 1906, and lately a member of the Grand Council.]

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE CONVENTION.

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Tokyo, August 15th said:

The new Convention between Russia and Japan is published to-day.

Both parties agree to respect the territorial integrity of each other, as well as all rights secured by each in the existing Treaties with China, and in the Portsmouth Treaty and Special Conventions.

Further, both Powers recognise and agree to maintain the independence and territorial integrity of China.

WATER RETURN.

Level and storage of water in reservoirs on the 1st August:—

	LEVEL.	1906.	1907.
	Below overflow.	Above overflow.	
Tytam	11 ft. 0½ in.	0 ft. 0½ in.	
		Below overflow.	
Byewash	19 ft. 2 in.	1 ft. 3 in.	
Pokfulam	0 ft. 1½ in.	0 ft. 9 in.	
Wongnaicheong.	14 ft. 6 in.	9 ft. 5 in.	
	STORAGE GALLONS.		
	1906.	1907.	
Tytam	297,400,000	384,800,000	
Byewash	3,178,000	20,630,000	
Pokfulam	65,730,000	64,340,000	
Wongnaicheong.	14,202,000	19,149,000	
Total	380,510,000	488,909,000	

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

	1906.	1907.
Consumption ...	122,335,000	147,224,000 gallons
Estimated population	234,100	205,260
Consumption per head per day	16.8	23.1 gallons

Rider Main in operation in the Central and Western Districts, and constant supply in all other Districts for the month of July 1906. Constant supply throughout the entire city during month of July 1907.

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

	1906.	1907.
Consumption ...	15,215,000	19,272,000 gallons
Estimated population	80,150	78,900
Consumption per head per day	6.1	7.8 gallons

The Government analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,
Water Authority.

HONGKONG'S FINANCES.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st May, 1907, are as follows:—

LIABILITIES.		\$
Crown Agents' Account	180,705.88	
Money Order Remittances	4,055.04	
Officers' Remittances	1,082.70	
Suspense House Service	12,990.20	
Total Liabilities	198,833.82	
Balance of Assets	1,239,541.97	
Total	\$1,438,375.79	
ASSETS.		\$
Balance, Bank	251,885.49	
Balance, Crown Agents	37,666.64	
Advances	302,347.23	
Crown Agents' Deposits	380,751.60	
Deposits not Available	86,328.78	
Subsidiary Coins	* 379,396.05	
Total	\$1,438,375.79	

* Estimated loss to be deducted on withdrawal of Coins from circulation \$12,000.

ANOTHER CHINESE DECREE.

A Decree dated August 2nd and issued in the name of the Empress Dowager, states that the first duty of the Sovereign is to nourish and seek after the welfare of his subjects. The Ancients attached great importance to the proper conduct of internal government, and in even greater proportion the necessity of promoting harmony and cordial relationships with foreign countries. China at the present day has her hands full of national problems. Her commonalty have not improved in riches; hence the necessity of paying more attention to finance and economic conditions. To attain this end, we established the Ministry of Agriculture, Works and Commerce to attend to these matters, but it is to be regretted that although several years have passed, the minds of the people have not been opened and enlightened as much as should be and this has been due to the fact that officials of all degrees have not inaugurated reforms with proper energy and earnestness, while their manner of exhortation and their advice for the encouragement of the people have not been satisfactory. We, therefore, hereby command the Viceroys, Governors, and Tartar Generals of provinces to instruct their subordinates to make all haste to start all kinds of industries that are needed, and to exert themselves to encourage business amongst the people. Those who are able to promote agricultural enterprises, mechanical arts and handicrafts, trades and mines or any other kind of business, or aid merchants to subscribe capital for industrial enterprises, and succeed in them—such officials or gentry who have worked to such an end will be rewarded by the Throne to an extraordinary degree. Should any one be able to show that he has succeeded in starting a manufactory or industrial work with a capital of over ten million taels, where the workmen number several thousand, such persons will be even more greatly rewarded—even to the extent of being raised to the peerage. We further command the Ministry concerned to draw up a scheme of rewards in accordance with the foregoing and report the same to us without delay. The said Ministry is also commanded to present an annual report upon conditions of trade and industries that have been started and brought to completion and success and these annual reports are to be distributed to officials, high and low, throughout the Empire for their information. Should any official, led by private animus fail to give proper assistance and protection to merchants and tradesmen, such official will be severely punished and no leniency will be shown. Let Our aim be to have no land lying fallow within our border, no wandering bands of unemployed people, and let us all work to make our country wealthy and strong. This is our earnest hope.

From the 1st January till 31st May this year the receipts paid into the Treasury amounted to \$5,877,037.05, and the payments out amounted to \$5,668,703.3. The receipts under the heading of subsidiary coins amount to \$43,316.97.

COMMERCIAL.

The Yokohama Prices Current and Market Report, published under the direction of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade, and dated Yokohama, 30th, July, 1907, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Yarns.—The market remains as last reported, but buyers are beginning to enquire for "forward." Shirtings.—The position is gradually improving as stocks in dealers' hands are becoming smaller. Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—The market has remained the same as when last reported. Metals.—The market is extremely dull, almost no movement of goods being reported. Kerosene.—The market is generally firm. Sugar.—No change. Indigo (Natural).—No business to report.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Since our report of the 15th instant, the market has advanced about Yen 3 per picul on Common and Medium grades. These Teas are in some supply and have found a ready market at the advanced price. Third crop Teas have not yet been shown. Seconds are about finished. Total settlements from May 1st to July 30th amount to 81,318 piculs, against 81,786 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

GENERAL EXPORTS.

Copper.—In view of the declining markets at home, producers show no inclination to operate. Fish Oil.—A further decline is reported, and rather considerable quantities have changed hands at Yen 7.90 to Yen 8.00 per 100 kin.

SILK REPORT.

On the 11th inst. our market fell to Yen 1,155 for No. 1-1½ Shinshu Filatures; but shortly afterwards a reaction set in and prices began to advance sharply, with the result that Yen 1,230 has been reached for the grade mentioned above. Stocks continue to remain very limited, and the absence of various grades such as "Extra A" and many fine sizes is keenly felt. At the close things are very firm.

WASTE SILK.

No Market. Small contracts are reported in Noshi-ito filatures at Yen 215 per picul. Arrivals of New Waste Silk are coming in very slowly, and the lots so far to hand cannot be considered as representative in quality. Settlements from July 9th to July 22nd—piculs Total Settlements from July 1st to July 22nd:—piculs. Stock on the July 23rd is estimated at 5,400 piculs, viz:—Noshi, 1,200 piculs; Kibizzo, 3,600 piculs; Pierced Cocoons,—piculs; Sundries, 600 piculs.

The Kobe Market Report, published under the direction of the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade, and dated (Kobe) Hiogo, 31st July, 1907, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Cotton.—American.—Prices have fluctuated within a small range since our last report, "forward" good middling closing at Yen 42. No business, however, is practicable at present high rates. "Spot" middling is still nominal at Yen 37.50 to 38, according to quality. Indian.—New crop commands rates above the idea of spinners here, and no legitimate business in consequence has transpired. Speculative sales are reported at Yen 28.25 for Yeothmal and Yen 25.25 for Akola and Khamguan for "forward" delivery. "Spot" remains dull and quiet, owing to the absence in the market of suitable qualities. Closing prices are:—Best Broach, Yen 30.50; Yeothmal Yen 25; Akola Khamguan Yen 23.50; Bengal Yen 21.50. Chinese.—Business in both "forward" and "spot" has been quiet for a considerable time, there being practically no available "spot" cargo at the moment. "Best" is nominal at Yen 30. Shirtings.—There is a better demand for some favourite chops and prices are strengthening. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—A better feeling in the market, and prices are strengthening owing to a more general demand by country consumers. Worsteds and Woollens.—Market dull, but there is a slightly better feeling observable in the trade. Metals.—No change to report; Market dull, with no improvement in prices. Sugar.—Best.—The

market continues weak and a further decline in prices has taken place. Cane.—Raw.—The market is quiet with no fresh business in the Kobe market. Muscovados 12/14, average not below 12½, is quoted at Yen 5.70 c.f.i. Kobe. Osaka Refined.—At the auction of the Osaka Refinery held on the 24th July, 7,100 bags were disposed of at the same prices as the last sale of the 7th July, with the exception of a few high grades which were sold at an advance of 10 sen. The market is brisk with upward tendency. Rice.—Continues strong.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Settlements to 30th July amount to piculs 54,000, as against piculs 50,000 to the same date last year. Fish Oil.—Market somewhat firmer for Herring, with some enquiry, but no transactions reported. Copper.—No transactions on account of still further declining London market. Rice.—Market strong. Cotton Yarn.—Fair business for forward goods has been done. The market for spot goods has gradually risen, and prices have advanced Yen 1.50 since last report. Vegetable Wax.—Market remains unchanged, but firm at quotation, no transactions reported. Matting.—Practically no change to report; prices remain very firm with a continued steady demand for supplies. Straw Braid.—Prices have been fairly well maintained during the past fortnight, and consuming markets have been forced to respond in order to arrange for further moderate supplies. Chip Braid.—Practically no change to report. Prices continue firm with upward tendency.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, August 16th.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.			
Malwa New	\$840	to	— per picul.
Malwa Old	\$880	to	— do.
Malwa Very Old	\$900	to	— do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$940	to	— do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$650	to	— do.
Patna New	\$700	to	— do.
Patna Old	\$820	to	— per chest.
Benares New	\$815	to	— do.
Benares Old	\$900	to	— do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 8th August, 1907, states:—The hot weather has set in at last in real earnest in these parts, and though the belated and much needed sun has come in time to save the cotton and rice crops, to the unfortunate toilers here it is very trying and but little conducive to pushing business successfully. Fortunately, perhaps, the first two days of the current week were the regular Autumn bank holidays which most offices observed for part of the days, the heat in the early afternoon being almost unbearable. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn from one who has lived in the North that the native merchants up there do next to nothing during the hot spell. The fact is, during the drought that Tientsin has just got through, the creeks had no water in them and the roads were all dust. Now after the rain, although the creeks are navigable, the roads are impassable, and so the delay in transport still continues. Fresh difficulties appear to be constantly arising to hamper the trade in Manchuria, by which Newchwang continues to suffer; now it is floods owing to the heavy rainfall, with the consequent washing away of railway embankments, etc. But these are only outward and visible signs of the depressed state of trade; unfortunately there are others, though not so pronounced. There is a general feeling of unrest and insecurity. Bankers are suspicious and withhold credit. It is not only the piece goods and yarn markets that have been overdone, almost everything has suffered in the same way, and the day of reckoning must come. So much for the situation here. The home markets are fortunately strong enough to discourage further importations for the present, and ever those that have felt themselves bound to buy "just to keep our cloths and chops on the market don't cher know" are not following it up. Manchester keeps very firm especially the makers of standard cloths, as not only are they well engaged forward, but, owing to the low grade of cotton, have to pay points on to secure possible quality.

This is what several of the mills in the United States have unfortunately failed to do, with the consequence that what have always been looked upon as standard makes have been glaringly let down, and the value of their chops is almost irretrievably ruined on this market. It put the importers in a most difficult position vis-a-vis buyers, who in the present congested state of this market are only too ready and willing to hit upon any excuse for repudiating their contracts. Manchester took years to learn how to avoid such pitfalls, and it behoves manufacturers in the States to be equally careful, if they do not wish their trade to be discredited in this country. On the receipt of the news of the August condition of the crop the price in Liverpool advanced to 7.38d. for "spot" and 6.97d. for "futures," but has declined to 7.30d. today for the former. Egyptian is a trifle easier at 10½d. The New York market is very strong still, especially for the lighter makes. In reply to an enquiry as to what Pelzer L. L. 4 yards shirtings could be bought at the reply came 11s. 10½d., and another cloth of the same weight 11s. 10d., January—February shipment. The export of plain cottons from England to Hongkong and China last month was rather heavier than anticipated, coming to 330,000,000 yards for the seven months, against 249,000,000 yards last year and 310,000,000 yards the year before. The yarn market is very quiet, with holders of Indian acting somewhat erratically, prices being distinctly easier in consequence of the advance in sterling rates of exchange. Bombay reports no business doing. Japanese spinings are weaker in sympathy with Osaka. Native cotton is quiet but firm. There has not been a single private transaction reported during the interval in piece goods, and clearances are not so favourable as they were. Some fair shipments of fast black cotton Italians have been made to Manchuria via Newchwang, and these goods are also wanted for Szechuen, from whence there is also a better enquiry for woollen goods. Indent business is practically at a standstill. At the auctions prices have been fairly well maintained in staple goods, and also the fast black cotton Italians, but Turkey reds are still inclined to drop. Woollens have shown a firmer tone generally. For American goods the market is very quiet at the moment. It is said the native holders of Pepperell drills are willing to sell in quantity at Tls. 4.50: Jeans are firm, the dealers commencing to realise their scarcity.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 8th August, 1907, states:—Gallnuts.—Some small parcels have changed hands in the meantime. As to Plum-shaped Gallnuts, there is a rumour that the crop is not very big. Cowhides.—Season closed. Tobacco.—Samples of the new crop are expected shortly. Feathers.—Season closed. Cotton.—No business reported. Tallow.—Season closed. Strawbraid.—The market remains very quiet, dealers commence to realize that they must lower their prices to come to business. There is some demand for fine and medium split for the States. Wool.—Sheep's. Season practically closed. Wood Oil.—There is very little doing. Antimony.—Market quiet.

Per steamer *Machaon*, sailed on 30th July. For Havre or London or Continent:—13 cases bristles. For London:—100 bales waste silk, 190 cases blackwood and chinaware, 30 cases bristles, 950 bales canes and mats, 150 casks soy. For London or Glasgow:—50 casks ginger. For London or Continent:—750 bales canes, 100 rolls mats, 67 bales feathers. For Rotterdam:—40 bales feathers, 600 rolls matting. For Antwerp:—400 cases palm leaf fans, 300 bales bamboo scraps, 70 bales feathers.

Per steamer *Verona*, sailed on 31st July. For New York:—2 packages grass chairs, 5 packages merchandise, 10 cases human hair, 19 casks preserves, 24 cases chinaware, 40 cases cantharides, 45 cases bristles, 125 cases essential oil, 235 bales canes, 343 bales rattan cores, 500 bales broken cassia, 645 bags peanuts, 5,045 packages fire crackers, 1,974 packages merchandise. For Philadelphia:—130 packages merchandise. For Boston:—447 packages merchandise.

Per steamer *Moyuna*, sailed on 7th August. For Genoa:—25 cases staraniseed, 200 cases cassia. For Marseilles:—90 packages human hair, 50 bales canes, 50 bales galangal, 20 cases China oil. For Havre:—450 bales mats and canes. For Liverpool:—50 bales rope, 180 packages Chinese goods. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk.

HANKOW, 31st July, 1907.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	" 31.00
Buffalo Hides, Best Selected	" 22.75
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 9.70
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 7.80
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" —
Jute	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.30
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.50
Animal Tallow	" 11.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 14.80
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.25
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 9.40
Tea Oil	" —

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 16th August, 1907.

Apricot	\$ 6 to 11
Borax	\$ 15 " 17½
Cassia	\$ 18 " 20
Cloves	\$ 16 " 32
Camphor	\$100 " 110
Cow Bezoar	\$120 " 130
Fennel Seed	\$ 11 " —
Galangal	\$ 3 " 6
Grapes	\$ 5 " 7
Kismis	\$ 5 " 8
Glue	\$ 26 " 28
Olibanum	\$ 2 " 13
Oil Sandalwood	\$ 245 " 350
" Rosa	\$ 60 " 150
" Cassia	\$ 245 " —
Raisins	\$ 6 " —
Senna Leaves	\$ 8 " 12
Sandalwood	\$ 28 " 29
Saltpetre	\$ 10 " 11

SHARE REPORTS

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending August 8, 1907, states:—Owing to the Bank holidays on the 5th and 6th inst. there has been but very little business to record since our last, and there are practically no changes in rates ruling last week. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 3/0 3/4. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks.—We quote the rate for old and new as \$680 and \$515 respectively. There has been no business reported. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China. The rates for Pref. and Def. shares are Tls. 30 and Tls. 21 respectively. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. A transfer in the ordinary shares is reported at Tls. 50. Docks and Wharves.—On the 1st instant shares changed hands at Tls. 78 ex div. for cash and Tls. 75 for September. There has been no business reported since, but the market closes steady at these rates. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. The market opened with cash shares quoted at Tls. 227, the September rate being Tls. 231. Some cash shares being on offer the rate receded to Tls. 226. For September, after sales at Tls. 230½ and Tls. 230, there were no shares obtainable under Tls. 231, and at closing we quote cash shares at Tls. 226 with buyers, and September Tls. 231 quiet. Sugar and Mi-ing.—No business. Lands.—Some shares changed hands at Tls. 100, and we hear of a reported sale at Tls. 98. There are buyers at this latter figure. Industrial.—Cotton shares remained quiet and no business reported.

Shanghai Gas Co. shares have advanced to Tls. 110. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkata. On the 1st inst. the market opened with buyers at Tls. 302½ for cash. This has been the prevailing rate, but at closing the market has improved to Tls. 305 buyers. Some forward sales have been made for December at Tls. 325, and for March at Tls. 335. Miscellaneous.—Hall and Holtz Shares have been placed at \$22, and there are buyers at this rate. S. Montrie and Co. There are buyers at \$38. Shanghai Horse Bazaars. There are sellers at Tls. 40. Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. shares were in demand at Tls. 50 in the early part of the week, and have advanced to Tls. 51, closing with buyers.

HONGKONG, 16th August, 1907.—Another quiet week has been experienced, and rates in many instances show a further decline. Sterling exchange, owing to the violent fluctuations of Bar Silver, has ruled very uncertain, and to this fact must be attributed, in a large measure, the prevailing dullness. Exchange on London closes at 2/2½ T/T, and on Shanghai at 72½ T/T.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, in sympathy with a fall of 10s. in London to £80 10s. for the old ex new, have eased off locally to \$670 and \$510 for old ex new and new respectively, at which rates there are sellers. Nationals are unchanged at \$51.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are quiet with probable sellers at \$77½. North Chinas have been booked and more shares on wanted at Tls. 75. Yangtszes are still procurable at \$180, and Cantons at \$270. China Traders have buyers at \$90.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have declined to \$315 with sellers, and Chinas continue on offer at \$88.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sold and are still obtainable at \$28 ex the dividend of \$1 per share for the half year ending 30th June last, paid on the 13th instant. Indo-Chinas are quiet but steady at \$39 and \$28 for the Preferred and Deferred respectively. Star Ferries are easier at \$23 and \$13 for the old and new issues respectively, and Shell Transports at 45s. nominal. There is no change in Douglasses.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are quiet and without change at \$100, and Luzons at \$21 sellers.

MINING.—Charbonnages are still required for at \$490. Baubs have been booked at \$5½ to \$6½, the market closing with probable sellers at the latter rate.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after sales at \$10½, dropped suddenly to \$98 owing to a forced sale, but have since recovered, and can again be placed at the higher rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have suffered a further decline to \$70 at which rate sales are reported. New Amoy Docks continue neglected at \$11½. Shanghai Docks have experienced a sharp advance, up to Tls. 82 having been paid for cash shares, whilst on time sales have been effected at Tls. 83 for December and Tls. 86 for March delivery. The closing quotation is Tls. 80 with probable buyers for cash. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves are also firmer at Tls. 221 ex the interim dividend of Tls. 8. per share on account of 1907 paid on the 13th instant.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands are quieter, and shares can be procured at the reduced rate of \$98. Kowloon Lands have sellers at \$37, and West Point's at \$48, after sales at the rate. Hongkong Hotels have sold and close firm at \$100. Humphreys' Estates have been booked at \$10½ and have further buyers. Shanghai Lands are firmer with buyers in the North at Tls. 102.

COTTON MILLS.—We have heard of no business in this section, and quotations are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Dairy Farms have improved to \$16 with sales. Green Island Cements are also firmer with sales and further buyers at \$10½. Electrics have dropped to \$14, and more shares are procurable. China Light and Powers have been booked at \$5, and China Provident's at \$8.90. Ropes have improved to \$23 buyers, and Tramways to \$11½, the latter with sales.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$670, sellers \$515, sellers (215 p'd up) Ln. 280.10 Ln. 280, n. i., (215, paid up)
National B. of China	26	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$6½
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$9½
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$5, sales
China Provident	\$10	\$8.90, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 64
Hongkong	\$10	\$11, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 53
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 93
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 310
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16, sales
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$70, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$100
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11½, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 80,
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 221, x.d. buy.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10½, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14, sales
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$100
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$241, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$23, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$270
China Fire	\$20	\$88, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$30	\$315, sellers
North China	\$5	Tls. 75, sales & buy
Union	\$100	\$775
Yangtsze	\$60	\$180, sellers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$98, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$10½, sales & buy.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$37, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 102, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$48, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$480, buyers
Baubs	18/10	\$6½
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$11½
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$1½, (new)
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$100
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$28, x.d., sellers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$5	\$39, Prefd \$28, Defd.
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$5½
Star Ferry	\$10	\$23, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$13, sellers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$22
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$7, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$24
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10
Do. Founders	\$0	\$150, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12½

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, August 19th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/3½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/3½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½

ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	279
Credits 4 months' sight	284½
ON GERMANY.—On demand	227½
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	51½
Credits, 60 days' sight	55½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	165½
Bank, on demand	166
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	165½
Bank on demand	166
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	108½
ON MANILA.—On demand	108½
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	5½ p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	133½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	4½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	4 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	67½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.0
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$47.40
BAR SILVER, per oz	81½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$8.38 discount.
"	10 " "	8.90 "
Hongkong	20 " "	8.10 "
"	10 " "	8.20 "

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 9th August.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is larger than that of the preceding fortnight. From Saigon to Hongkong, as much as 18 cents per picul was paid, but owing to a sharp drop in the price of rice locally only 16 cents is now obtainable; to North Coast Java, 18 cents; to one port Singapore, 25 cents and 26 cents according to size; to one port South Coast Japan, 23 cents has been paid for a large carrier. From Bangkok to Hongkong, 27 and 20 cents per picul. From North Coast Java to Hongkong, 30 cents per picul last; to Japan, 10 and 9 per ton. Coal freights are weaker. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$1.55; to Canton, \$2.25; to Singapore \$1.70; to Swatow, \$1.85. Pulo Laut to Hongkong \$2.50 per ton. Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.30; to Canton, \$1.75 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Fiume—German steamer, 828 tons, Wakamatsu to Hongkong, \$1.65½ per ton.

Fooksang—British steamer, 1,987 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.

Kjeld—Norwegian steamer, 910 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.

Hinsang—British steamer, 1,136 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.

Wimbledon—British steamer, 2,436 tons, Pulo Laut to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Progress—German steamer, 799 tons, Labuan to Saigon, \$2.25 per ton.

Ulv—Norwegian steamer, 894 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$3.250 lump sum.

Lauchan—German steamer, 2,066 tons, Saigon to one port South Coast Japan, 23 cents per picul.

Michael Jensen—German steamer, 951 tons, three ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, private terms.

Hellas—German steamer, 1,539 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java and three ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, private terms.

Ulv—Norwegian steamer, 884 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (25,000), 26 cents per picul.

Profit—Norwegian steamer, 715 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 25 cents per picul.

An Indo China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Waishing—British steamer, 1,170 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Changchow—British steamer, 1,203 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Taiwan—British steamer, 1,042 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Standard—Norwegian steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Landrat Scheiff—German steamer, 1,012 tons, Saigon to Hongkong and or Canton, 18 cents and 20½ cents per picul.

Pheumpeh—British steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Telenuchus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Nord—Norwegian steamer, 730 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Phuyen—French steamer, 1,296 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—

ARRIVALS.

- 8, Delhi, British str., from Shanghai.
 8, Shawmut, American str., from Manila.
 9, Bellerophon, British str., from Tacoma.
 9, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 9, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
 9, Japan, British str., from Calcutta.
 9, Leo Sun, German str., from Bangkok.
 9, Masing, British str., from Sandakan.
 9, Riversdale, British str., from Sourabaya.
 9, Scandia, German str., from Foochow.
 9, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 10, Haitan, French str., from Hoihow.
 10, Istok, Austrian str., from Bombay.
 10, Kauchow, British str., from Shanghai.
 10, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
 10, Shansi, British str., from Swatow.
 10, Sotrudnik, Rus. str., from St. Petersburg.
 10, Sungkian, British str., from Iloilo.
 10, Wosang, British str., from Chinkang.
 11, Awa Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 11, Chipshing, British str., from Chefoo.
 11, Flume, German str., from Wakamatsu.
 11, Nanshan, British str., from Saigon.
 11, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
 11, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 11, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
 11, Tainan, British str., from Sydney.
 11, Vorwarts, German str., from Tsingtau.
 12, Arratoon Apear, Br. str., from Yokohama.
 12, Bengloe, British str., from Singapore.
 12, Chunsang, British str., from Saigon.
 12, Hupeh, British str., from Hoihow.
 12, P. E. Friedrich, Ger. str., from Singapore.
 12, Sishuan, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 12, Zieten, German str., from Yokohama.
 13, Glamorganshire, Br. str., from Singapore.
 13, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13, Heimdal, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 13, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 13, Nichibei M., Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.
 13, Siam, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Simla, British str., from Yokohama.
 13, Stentor, British str., from Foochow.
 13, Tiv, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 13, Yatsing, British str., from Swatow.
 13, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 14, Bombay Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 14, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 14, D-vavongse, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Amoy.
 14, Heliopolis, British str., from C. W. Tao.
 14, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 14, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 14, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 14, Namur, British str., from London.
 14, P. Waldemar, Ger. str., from Kuchinotsu.
 14, Rajah, German str., from Bangkok.

August—

DEPARTURES.

- 8, Dakotah, British str., for San Francisco.
 9, Onsang, British str., for Samarang.
 9, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
 10, Delhi, British str., for Europe, &c.
 10, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 10, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Java.
 10, Kashing, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Laisang, British str., for Singapore.
 10, Nikko M., Jap. str., for Australian Ports.
 10, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 10, Suisang, British str., for Saigon.
 11, Scandia, German str., for Singapore.
 11, Standard, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 11, Wakamiya Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 12, Arabia, German str., for Portland.
 12, Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Nord, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 12, Sullberg, German str., for Saigon.
 12, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 13, Bengloe, British str., for Nagasaki.
 13, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 13, Glecek, British str., for Moji.
 13, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 13, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
 13, Ichang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 13, Japan, British str., for Yokohama.
 13, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 13, Kauchow, British str., for Hongkong.
 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 13, P. E. Friedrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 13, Progress, Norwegian str., for Sandakan.
 13, Sotrudnik, Russian str., for Shanghai.
 13, Wongkol, German str., for Swatow.
 14, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
 14, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.

- 14, Haitan, French str., for Hoihow.
 14, Lauschan, German str., for Saigon.
 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 14, Monteagle, British str., for Vancouver.
 14, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 14, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 14, Stentor, British str., for Singapore.
 14, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 14, Wingsan, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Zieten, German str., for Europe, &c.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Prins Waldemar*, from Kuchinotsu, Mr. Wellen.
 Per *Bengloe*, from Singapore, Messrs. M. Ede, G. Troubridge, and W. Johnson.
 Per *Taming*, from Manila, Lieut. and Mrs. W. A. Austin and child, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Order and child, Mrs. F. E. Green, Messrs. Guild, Maack, Nugst, B. Addison and 2 children.
 Per *Delhi*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. W. Lewisham, M. Allid and Mead; for Penang, Mrs. Fisher, infant and amah, Messrs. A. Oakle and Head Jones; for Colombo, A. T. Popoff; for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Odu, and Chapman Leach; for London, Messrs. A. Getley, A. Hurton and A. Mathews.
 Per *Shawmut*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Smith and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Steever, Mr. and Mrs. Vogel and child, Mr. and Mrs. Scherer, child and infant, Capt. and Mrs. A. L. B. Davies, Lieut. and Mrs. Joss and infant, Mrs. Beckjord, Mrs. I. C. Whitford, Mrs. E. C. Mayo, Mrs. P. G. Clark, Mrs. Burchfield, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Faison, Misses C. E. Wilson, Dorr and Greer, Capt. I. W. Swann, Dr. Crell, Lieut. Harris, Mr. Afzal, Messrs. H. W. Pickrell, R. O. F. Mann, A. Ascher, L. A. Clark, C. Edmunds, H. L. Beckjord and M. Carty.
 Per *P. E. Friedrich*, from Hongkong, from Bremen, Messrs. Willy Parey, Karl Rudolph, Carl H. Kelling, Joach Buldebonck, Hans Kyer, Hjalmar O. Olsen, Th. O. Amundsen, Olaf Jotanes, von Koch & amah, Ein Medermesse; from Southampton, Messrs. E. S. Warrington, T. Fuller and Dar. Keir Birse; from Genoa, Mrs. Martha Schnellert, Messrs. Alfr. Mikulicz, W. Kellinghusen, Hans Anderson, Otto Löwner, Erich Wolf, Peter Hanson, Heint. Wedehase, Paul Tanner, J. L. Bühler, A. Bühmer and Carl Berg; from Gibraltar, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Gibbs; from Colombo, Mr. W. L. Bramwell; from Penang, Messrs. Lye Choe and Kaneko; from Singapore, Dr. Koss, Dr. Fraser, Dr. Siebert, Messrs. A. M. Lumpkin, Otto Weitnauer, F. Zissler, J. W. Wampler, Percy Smith, Crowther Smith, F. W. Abbott and J. Grainger; for Manila, from Genoa, Mrs. Marie Floret, and Mrs. Jromi Floret.
 Per *Zieten*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, and Mr. A. Kuhn; from Kobe, Messrs. K. F. Laak and servant, Hong Biggan, F. A. Gubbay, L. Wah Lak, T. Takumitsu and P. Hornbeck, and Miss Takumitsu; from Nagasaki, Mrs. P. Getgarte, Mrs. Kraft, Messrs. T. Fukuda and Amasadao; from Shanghai, Mrs. Weil, child and amah, Miss F. Stinberg, Rev. Rob. A. Caldwell, Messrs. W. F. Brewer, W. Schewan, Marcowitsch, E. Bienaimé, Nickel, Ph. Orshoff, Martin Kühn and Negländer, child & amah; from Yokohama, for London, Mr. N. Graydon; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Michel, Dr. K. Katayama, Messrs. K. Yoshioka, E. Evert and Pferdekasper; for Port Said, Mr. Harry Asoums; for Singapore, Prof. Dr. Miyoshi, and Mr. V. V. Hathiramami; from Kobe, for Hamburg, Mrs. Rothsprack & child; for Colombo, Lieut. Freih. von Pents, and Lieut. von der Decken; for Singapore, Miss H. Taida, Mr. and Miss F. Faani and servant, & Mr. T. Sakasai; from Nagasaki, for Colombo, Mrs. S. Krewesusa, Messrs. R. Pogorelsky, B. Masorer and Finkelstein; for Penang, Mrs. Fae Oaki, Mrs. Fohimoto and daughter, Mrs. Tshimoto, and Mrs. Chiyo Saito; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Kamasaki and baby, Mrs. H. G. Mulder, Mrs. Finkelstein, Mrs. Samson, Mrs. M. Takeshita, and Mr. Takaka; from Shanghai, for Antwerp, Mr. M. Fournier; for Genoa, Mrs. Capt. Lohrangel, Dr. Med. Seibert, Messrs. Paul Kranse, D. F. Owens, A. P. McLoughlin, and E. H. Van Berger; for Colombo, F. Krowesuse; for Singapore, Mr. Chinsein; for Bremerhaven, Messrs. P. Will, C. Florancy, W. Hoffmann, W. Kümel, O. Hellinghans and W. Röhrig.

Per *Simla*, from Foochow, for Hongkong, Sir H. Berkeley; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr. G. I. Lyon; from Yokohama, for London, Mr. Hunter.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, Capt. and Mrs. Baker, Lt. and Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. K. Thiefeld, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. O. W. Ney, Misses Rosa Bautista, Victoria Lopez and Okin, Genl. E. A. Garlington, Messrs. C. Edwards, P. Edwards, T. B. Mopna, Ramon Mariano, C. E. Narten, D. J. Doherty, W. E. Banks, T. W. Allen, R. S. Menzies, H. L. Adama, A. B. Moulder, Tagawa, J. O. Jorge, G. N. Guertin and Flora Damasoo.

Per *Namur*, from London, for Hongkong, Sgt. and Mrs. Mag. Hodgson, Mrs. A. Panchoon and infant, Messrs. L. O. Main, W. Surenoy, T. F. Sullivan, H. R. Gauntlett and J. C. Pendlebury; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Kennedy, Mrs. and Miss Robson, Mrs. C. H. Carey, Mrs. Marsh and 2 children, Miss A. Way, Messrs. E. Hill, H. E. Gooch, Jaa Gill, T. P. Main and Keenon; from Singapore, for Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. Hickey and child, and Mr. H. G. Harmer.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Messrs. G. Krumm, W. Kellinghusen, G. N. Guertin, J. V. Jorge and F. Damasoo.

Per *Delhi*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Capt. H. Krebs, Messrs. W. D. Graham and F. G. Brighton; for Penang, Mrs. Fisher, and Mr. Head Jones; for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. J. Odu, Mr. Chapman Leach and servant; for London, Messrs. A. Getley, A. Burton and A. Mathews.

Per *Monteagle*, from Hongkong, for Vancouver, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, Capt. and Mrs. Baker, Major and Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Williams, Miss Barker, Capt. Cutler, Capt. Brierley, Capt. Boyd, Dr. Forsyth, Dr. J. W. Ross, Messrs. Adams, David, Mengies, Geo. Guild, Quian, Rosenstock, H. E. Brewer, F. W. Abbott, A. MacMillan, A. Len, Doherty, Clayton and Gompers.

Per *Korea*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai & San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Cook Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Tyler, Mrs. A. G. Gordon, 2 children and amah, Mrs. H. H. Hammer, Miss V. de Noix, Capt. M. Parker, Messrs. Arts Adophe, J. A. McClure, R. Mariano, J. A. Young, A. M. Lumpkin, T. Mapua, W. G. Gomp, J. Hayes, Hohl, F. Fielder, Chas. Homberg, H. Uttley, Eugene Rosa, W. Roberts, T. W. Wampler and E. Turner.

Per *Prins Waldemar*, from Hongkong, for Australia, &c., Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Gair, Mrs. Focken and children, Mrs. Marie Floret, Mrs. Jerome Floret, Miss Martha Schnellert, Rev. Robert A. Caldwell, Dr. Siebert, Earl and Lady of Loosdoo, Messrs. Hans Andeser, W. L. Bramwell, Julius Buhr, Feist, A. W. Gibbs, Peter Hanson, Karl Kelling, Otto Löwner, Peter Mikulez, Karl Rudolph, Paul Tanner and H. Ph. Whitmarsh.

Per *P. E. Friedrich*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Summers and children, Dr. and Mrs. L. S. Morgan, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. C. Kamsteg, Mrs. Boordmann, Rev. B. Philogone, Messrs. C. Rijkers, A. Rijkers, H. M. Wood, Paul Luttinghans, A. Maak, H. Stevens, M. Allix, W. J. Pitcairn, Iekamsteeg, H. Kammsterg, Ph. Kammsterg, C. Pauna, A. A. Heistek, H. Rothhardt, Messrs. H. Rijkers, J. W. Rijkers, W. L. Pegruni and J. Sydney; for Kobe, Mrs. M. Ferst, and Mr. C. Hamberg; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Bateson Wright.

Per *Zieten*, from Hongkong, for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. Michel, Mr. and Mrs. Marker, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Swan and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Wright, Lieut. and Mrs. H. A. Austin, Mrs. H. G. Mulder, Mrs. Rothsprack and son, Mrs. E. Stewart and children, Misses V. W. Brent, M. E. Carroll, C. Noon and Yasui, Dr. K. Katayama, Dr. Seibert, Prof. Dr. Miyostui, Capt. Lorengel, Lieut. v. d. Decken, Lieut. Freiherr von Pents, Rev. José Martins da Silva, Messrs. H. Assuma, C. B. Braadlist, G. M. Brown, E. H. v. Berger, J. Cable, Robert H. Donald, M. Fournier, General E. A. Garlin, J. Gokaldas, A. A. Holle, N. N. Hithiramani, M. P. Ker, Paul Krause, A. P. McLoughlin, D. F. Owens, Rich. Petzchek, Arch. Ritchie, F. Sakasai, J. H. Tobias, H. E. Webb, Y. Yasui, and R. Yoshioka.

Printed and published by BARNARD AUGUSTUS HALL, for the Concerned, at 104, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office 131, Fleet Street, E.C.